

BAY AREA REPORTER

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'Dynasty' Fever Sweeping SF Gay Bars

by Allen White

"Dynasty" fever has hit the Gay community of San Francisco.

Febe's on Folsom Street serves hot dogs and people bring in other food for a Wednesday night pot luck. Down the street, the Ramrod has upwards of fifty people eager to watch the glamorous escapades of the super-rich Denver family.



Joan Collins as Alexis Carrington-Colby, the glamorous schemer from hit TV nighttime soap "Dynasty."

By 8:30 the lines reach well down 18th Street with people waiting to get into the Mid-night Sun. Across the street people gather at the Castro Country Club to watch. Down at 18th and Hartford

another large crowd gathers in the Moby Dick. Over on Castro, the pool tables come to a stop as people gather around the bar to watch "Dynasty." The same kind

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HAPPY

White Announcement Blows Chill Wind

No Surprises

by Allen White

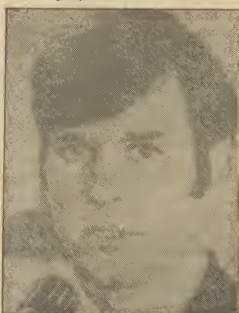
The decision of the Federal Government to not prosecute Dan White for the deaths of Mayor George Moscone and Supervisor Harvey Milk was received calmly in San Francisco's Castro District on Monday.

Six days before the fifth anniversary of the City Hall slayings, U.S. Attorney Joseph Russoniello said the Justice Department has advised him it will not prosecute White under federal civil rights laws. It means that the murderer will be paroled from Soledad Prison on January 6, 1984.

There had been concern the announcement might trigger violent behavior. In May of 1979 the Gay community rioted when Dan White was convicted of voluntary manslaughter. The light sentence of less than six years led many to conclude that the killer had gotten away with murder.

Following the announcement on Monday, Deputy Police Chief George Eimil said that he didn't expect any problems but said the police were "prepared for any even-

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'Panic' Defense Fails in Polk Street Stabbing

Attempt to Keep Gays Off Jury Foiled

by Paul Lorch

A Lesbian Assistant District Attorney, Bref French, and a Black Public Defender, Joe Billingsly, tangled this week in Superior Court. His client (the defendant) was 33-year-old Arthur Sausedo, unemployed, married with a baby. Her client (the victim) was 51-year-old Orville Bly, homosexual hairdresser.

Sausedo stabbed Bly in the abdomen June 13, 1983, in a video booth in Frenchy's K & T at Geary and Polk.

On Friday, November 18 — after a 5-day trial — a jury of Sausedo's peers found him guilty of 245A, assault with a deadly weapon (for which he could serve from 2 to 4 years). In addition, he was found guilty of causing "great bodily injury" which carries an additional 3 years. Sausedo has had previous brushes with the law for gun possession (both misdemeanor and felony charges).

French, while pleased with the verdict favoring the defendant, was not happy how Billingsly conducted the defense. She said that repeatedly the public defender told the jury that "we were trying to make this a political case."

French was asked before the jury if she was a member of the Harvey Milk Gay Democratic Club or whether she had ever addressed those clubs.

French had called District Attorney's office investigator Ron Huberman as an expert witness to describe the sexual milieu that permeated Polk Street. Huberman, who is a vice president of the Harvey Milk club, was also quizzed on his political activities in his private life. Billingsly, taking the lead from top Public Defender Peter Keane in the Dana Holley case, sought to



Principal Assistant District Attorney Bref French after a successful prosecution of a stabber of a Gay man. (Photo: Rink)

taint the witness and the prosecutor as part of the "Arlo Smith/Gay community conspiracy" to derail justice in San

Francisco. (This paper and its editor have also been brought into that public defender's conspiracy)"

(Continued on page 5)

THANKSGIVING

Stricter Masseur Ads Rejected in 2nd Vote

by George Mendenhall

Three city supervisors changed their votes this week from Aye to Nay, bringing a 7-3 defeat to a measure that would have restricted masseur and escort service advertising. Changing their votes were Supervisors Wendy Nelder, Louise Renne, and Doris Ward. They joined Harry Britt, John Molinari, Bill Maher, and Carol Ruth Silver in killing a proposed amendment to city code which had originated with the Police Commission. Voting for the restriction were Willie Kennedy, Nancy Walker, and Quentin Kopp. Richard Hongisto was absent.

The proposal would have required masseurs and escort bureaus to include their police permit numbers in their advertisements. The idea had been proposed to Special Services (the vice squad) by Catherine Willis, 74. She told

this reporter that she is a "legitimate" masseuse who wants to "get prostitution out of the massage business." Willis said she gets tired of being asked blunt sexual questions on the telephone by prospective customers.

Bay Area Reporter brought to the supervisors' attention some of the problems in the proposal in last week's analysis. There was some confusion at the Hall of Justice about the measure. Would models, who are not required to have police permits, be included? Would a steam bath be required to list masseurs on duty in their ads? Was the legislation so broad that an attorney and client might be included?

In 1981 the supervisors passed an ordinance requiring escort bureaus to have permits. Masseurs have been required to have permits since 1972. One of the reasons the licenses are required, police attorney Lawrence Wilson explained, is that clients who could be victimized receive more protection when the police know who is in business.

Grant Sought for College Gay Office

C.C. Board Member Riordan Blasts Tim Wolfred's 'Modest Proposal'

by Paul Lorch

Dr. Tim Wolfred's proposal to seek grant money to open an Office of Gay Concerns was met with marked criticism at last week's Community College Board meeting. The bulk of the abuse came from Board member John Riordan.

All the same, the vote was 4 to 2 to give CC Chancellor Hilary Hsu the leave to apply for a \$155,500 grant from the San Francisco-based Vanguard Foundation.

Wolfred's motion was an outgrowth of his work with GLESC (Gay/Lesbian Education Services Committee) on the college campus. GLESC is a combine of Gay teachers, counselors, administrators, and employees. He made the proposal about six months ago; it came to a vote last Tuesday night.

The Gay office, if funded, would last three years. It would address such things as Gay studies, library collection of Gay titles, the Castro/Valencia Center, and a general consciousness-raising among faculty and administrators. The office would be comprised of two employees. The college district would have to contribute \$2,100 and provide \$8,250 in office space and other "in kind" services. The Gay Concerns Office would come under the supervision of Vice Chancellor for Instruction Nancy Swadesh.

Board members John Riordan and Robert Burton voted against the idea.

"Nowhere in our district do we have a lobbying organization for one community," argued Riordan, who branded the Gay office funding application as "cuckoo" and "silly and not necessary."

"What in heaven's name does fostering sensitivity to Gay and Lesbian lifestyles among district employees mean?" questioned Riordan. "It sounds like we're trying to proselytize our employees," he added.



CC Board member and Polk Street attorney John Riordan.

Burton criticized the office proposal saying, "We are saying you are a separate community. You have a leg up on the Chippawas and Chickasaws."

Dr. Wolfred said he was shocked by "the vehemence of his (Riordan's) objections." He said that Riordan, an old line Irish Catholic attorney with an office on Polk Street, made an unprecedented attack. He said that he has learned since the victory Riordan is mounting a campaign to retaliate against Chancellor Hsu and himself. Wolfred said in his attempts to carry it further, expect to see letters to the editor in the non-Gay dailies.

Wolfred said for its part the district has been support-



Tim Wolfred runs into unexpected flack from colleagues as he pushes for a grant for a College Gay office. (Photo: Rink)

ive all along. "There are lots of precedents," he said, "ethnic studies, the Chinitown Center, Mission Center, which administers to the needs of Latinos."

Wolfred praised Hsu, "The college administration has been cooperative and forthright in developing this

project, and is eager to go forward with it."

The Vanguard Foundation has a history of funding programs relating to minorities. Hence, Wolfred is hopeful. He sees the grant proposal as a fairly modest one, a kind of one the board routinely approves. ■

Dan White Announcement

(Continued from page 1)

tuity." Reliable sources indicate that the police were informed of the decision by the Justice Department last week. Before making the information public, it appears that several people were alerted including the Mayor and the Chief of Police.

Throughout the day the press were working to get a pulse of the reaction to Russoniello's statement. Significantly, many of those who in previous years would have been found on Castro Street were absent. Cleve Jones, who has led all the candlelight marches since the assassinations, was in Sacramento working on legislation for Assemblyman Art Agnos. Scott Smith, a former lover of Harvey Milk, was inundated with press interviews.

There was little reaction on Castro Street. A sign counting down the days 'til Dan White will be released was tacked to the side of the Bank of America building. It simply said, "46 days until Dan White is free."

With the afternoon delivery of the *San Francisco Examiner* there was the only indication of public attention. With the headline blazing "Dan White to go free," papers were sold by the dozens in seconds after delivery to the stand at 18th and Castro. Most seemed to know of the announcement, yet there was a sense of shock to see the truth bannered across the front page of the newspaper.

The credit for delivery of the news on Dan White's fate rested with television station KGO. Channel 7 had carried the announcement three weeks ago and carried the Russoniello press conference "live." Reporter Lee McEachern told the *Bay Area Reporter* that the station had originally learned the information from sources in the Justice Department in Washington, D.C. He denied

allegations that the station might have simply made an educated guess.

He said the station had three separate and reliable sources in Washington. "The story," he said, "was too important to go with unless it could be backed up." When the story was first aired, Joseph Russoniello had charged the station with being "irresponsible."

During the broadcast three weeks ago, KGO-TV reporter Joyce Shank revealed that in 1979 Channel 7 had tried to interview Dan White. She said they were informed that he was asking \$75,000 for an interview. ABC-TV refused to pay the money. During the show it was also reported that they made contact with a person caring for Dan White's mongoloid child at the family home. The response to the announcement was, "Our prayers have been answered." When reached last Monday, White's wife, Mary Ann, said that the family never seriously believed the Justice Department would prosecute.

In her report this week, Joyce Shank indicated that Dan White may choose to take an apparent option to be paroled in another state. Government officials believe that the killer would not be safe if he returned to San Francisco when released. Those thoughts would appear to be confirmed as many on Castro Street openly discussed how Dan White will be murdered once he is no longer under the secure environment of a prison cell.

Virtually all the other Bay Area stations chose to downplay the announcement. KPIX and KRON in San Francisco carried the story as the lead but refrained from in-depth coverage. Channel 4 used the story to lead into a week-long series of reports called "The Ten Days That Shook San Francisco."

The most comprehensive newspaper coverage was in the afternoon editions of the *San Francisco Examiner*. Milk biographer Randy Shilts surveyed public opinion in Dan White's old District 8 and in the Castro area for the *San Francisco Chronicle*. His assignment came on the heels of a violent argument earlier in the city room of the *Chronicle*. Shilts had been extensively quoted Monday by *Chronicle* columnist Jon Carroll in a homophobic story on "Gay" accents. The confrontation came when Randy Shilts angrily denounced Carroll for his anti-Gay remarks.

The responsibility for police activity in the Castro rested with Mission Station Captain Vic Macia. He constantly monitored the feel on the street. At his insistence there was no increase of police presence in the area. Macia had done extensive work in the last year to shore up relations between the Gay community and the police. The working relationship paid off for the police department. Macia was able to not only monitor the street activity, he was able to contact many Gay leaders to ascertain and confirm the mood of the community.

Monday afternoon Lee McEachern sifted through the many reports he had gathered with various comments of outrage at the fate of the killer. As he prepared for the evening news, he looked to the statement of the Assistant Attorney General Stephen Trott to wrap up his feelings. In part it said, "There is little doubt that the criminal justice system in California failed to hold Dan White adequately responsible for his actions."

Supervisor Harvey Milk and Mayor George Moscone were killed by Dan White on November 27, 1978. White will be released from prison in six weeks. ■

A. White

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Santa Cruz's New Gay Mayor: John Laird

by Allen White

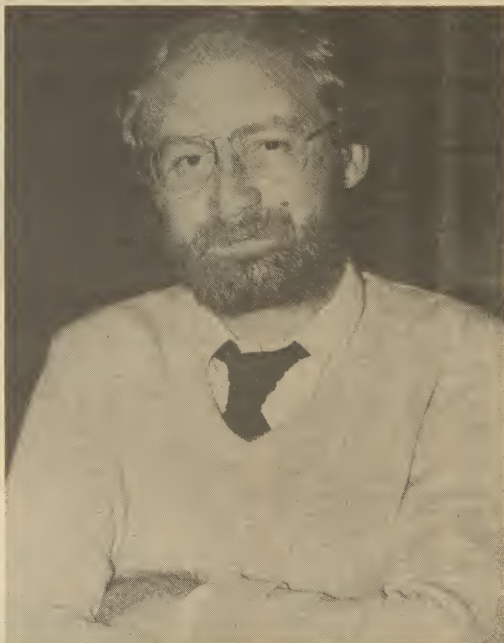
John Laird, 33, has become the first openly Gay Mayor of Santa Cruz, California. He was unanimously elected by the city council.

In Santa Cruz, the mayor serves for one year. He is voted into office by his peers. On November 8, four of the seven seats were filled. There were eight candidates running for the council, four progressives and four conservatives. The four progressives were supported by the local Gay organizations and the Bay Area Non-Partisan Alliance, a Gay political action group in San Francisco. The Alliance contributed to the four candidates who were pledged to vote for Laird for mayor. Two progressives and two conservatives won. This held the balance of power for Laird and the vote was unanimous.

The vote was extremely close in a high turnout election. The spread was only 1200 votes from the highest vote-getter to the bottom. Eighteen thousand votes were cast. The actual voter turnout was 56% as opposed to the 43% when Laird was elected to the council in 1981.

Though known that John Laird was Gay, his sexual orientation was not believed to be a major factor in his election as Mayor. Laird noted that his being Gay was raised gently and was never a forceful issue in the campaign. Support for the progressive candidates was conditioned on their support for John Laird as mayor.

Prior to becoming mayor, John Laird has been extremely involved in government management for many years. He worked for Congressman Jerry Waldie. Waldie was on the House Judiciary Committee during the investigation of Richard Nixon. Laird is on the county's transportation committee, on the transit board, the water policy task force, the Senior Council, the Convention and Tourist Bureau, and he is the Vice-



John Laird, Santa Cruz's new Gay mayor. (Photo: Rink)

President of AMBAG, an association of Monterey Bay area city governments. John Laird also works closely with the newly formed Freedom Democratic Caucus. The caucus has been in existence for the last six months in Santa Cruz and with 85 members is the major Gay organization in the area.

A top priority of John Laird as an openly Gay mayor will be to work with Bob Gentry, the Mayor of Laguna Beach, who is also Gay, to lobby for the passage of AB 1. An opportunity of being Gay and the mayor is the opportunity to educate. Laird commented that he has been able to get front page attention in the Santa Cruz papers for the need to secure passage of AB 1.

Since becoming mayor, he has worked his way through the city speaking at many groups ranging from the ACLU to neighborhood groups, to the Chamber of Commerce. He is being praised for his courage to be an openly Gay man running for public office. He believes it is significant that there is no large majority

of Gay people in Santa Cruz. He estimates the numbers at about ten percent of the total population. This, he believes, indicates that he was elected because of voter confidence in his ability to do the job. He said the people of Santa Cruz now want him to get about the business of solving the problems of the city. People in Santa Cruz will be watching how he solves the water problem, the problems surrounding University Park and other problems in city government.

He is now starting to receive letters at his new office as the mayor. One came from a 70 year old woman. She said that times are changing and young people in office are changing the city for the better. She thanked John Laird for creating a city where people are free from many areas of repression that existed in her lifetime. One old tradition John Laird hopes to bring back is the train to Santa Cruz. If he has his way, there will be train service through Watsonville from San Francisco to Santa Cruz by the first of next July. ■

Thanksgiving Inter-Faith Services

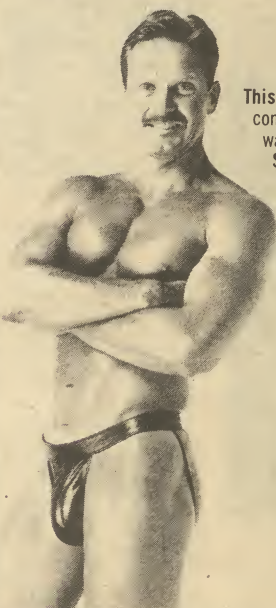
On Friday, November 23, at 8:15p.m., Congregation Sha'ar Zahav will sponsor an inter-faith Thanksgiving service at its synagogue, 220 Danvers at Caselli, San Francisco.

Leading the services will be the Rev. Connie Hartquist, deacon of the Episcopal Church, and Garry Koenigsberg, member of Sha'ar Zahav's Ritual Committee.

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, a congregation with a particular outreach to the Gay and Lesbian Jewish communities, extends an invitation for all to attend.

For further information, please call the synagogue's office at 921-7612. ■

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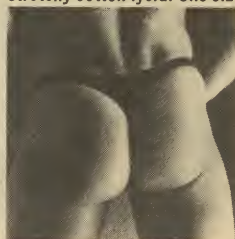


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HEADLINES

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549 CASTRO

'Give Glenn A Chance,' Pleads Gay Demo Official

Demonstration Threats Challenge Party Solidarity

by George Mendenhall

"Let us be patient, aware that presidential candidates are learning-on-their-feet. There is an evolution, a process going on to educate candidates and turn them around. Some of them are groping with the Gay/Lesbian issue for the first time."

Speaking to this newspaper over the weekend, Gay Democratic official Tom Chorlton made this statement. Chorlton is the full-time Executive Director of the 110-member National Association of Gay and Lesbian Democratic Clubs, based in Washington, D.C.

"Glenn's overall view on civil rights is good," Chorlton emphasized. "The problem is that the senator believes homosexuality to be a matter of lifestyle, of behavior, of sexual preference. He does not perceive that we have a sexual orientation. Glenn does not support our national Gay rights legislation because he doesn't think a 'lifestyle' calls for federal protection."

Early in his campaign, Glenn urged "social justice for all Americans, regardless of their sexual preference" but not legal protection. Defensively, he also emphasized that he was not "promoting" or "advocating" homosexuality — something he was not being asked to do.

When Chorlton talked with Glenn last week, one of a series of talks he has had with the candidate, the senator urged that he did not want anyone to think he was closing any doors. Glenn said he wanted a continuing, open dialogue with the Gay community.

The Gay Democratic official is not endorsing Glenn or any other candidate at this time. He emphasized that Glenn is only one of several candidates who are having difficulty adjusting to the Lesbian/Gay issue. "Glenn is beginning to deal with the issue. That is important.

How many of us could immediately take the perfect position on an issue that is strange to us? Candidates do not think their positions out before they announce... We will keep talking to Glenn and his staff."

DEFECTORS

San Francisco Public Defender Jeff Brown informed this newspaper on Friday that he had withdrawn as Honorary Chair of the Glenn campaign after reading a *Bay Area Reporter* article about Glenn's position on Gay rights.

Supervisor Richard Honigisto, who had considered endorsing Glenn, said, "Glenn's position that homosexuality is a matter of choice is unsophisticated. My heterosexuality is not a matter of choice and neither is being Gay." He added, "Does Glenn say that since it is a matter of choice, discrimination against Gay people can be tolerated? I could never support a candidate with that attitude." Honigisto now supports Senator Alan Cranston.

Chorlton called on Gay people in the Bay Area to explain the need for national Gay rights legislation to candidate Glenn. He urges that correspondence should be sent to Glenn's top aide, Bob

Keefe, at Suite 711, 444 No. Capitol NW, Washington, D.C. 20001.

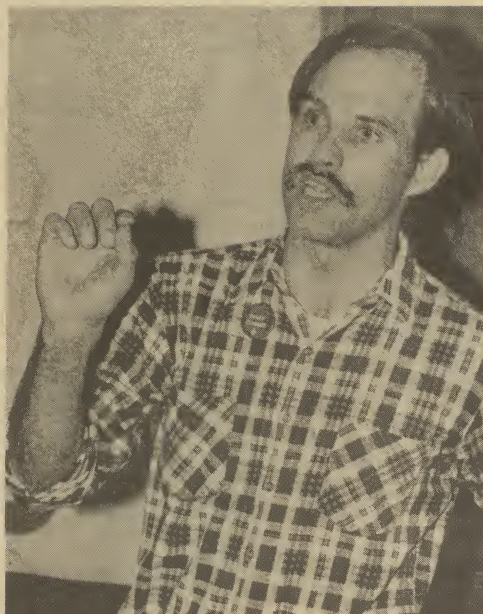
JESSE JACKSON

Chorlton has also been talking with candidate Jesse Jackson and is pleased that he "made the most positive Gay rights statement of any candidate in announcing." Jackson states that he had a "rainbow coalition" of minorities, that included Gay people. He went on to emphasize, "Our basic position concerning Gays and Lesbians is that we must affirm their humanity and afford equal protection under the law."

The Demo Clubs' official believes "Jackson has moved a great distance in a short period of time. His popularity as a candidate is increasing, and he will be important to us at the 1984 convention."

DEMONSTRATIONS

What does the national activist, Chorlton, think about the Gay demonstrations being planned for the July '84 Democratic Conven-



Stonewall Demo Club president Paul Boneberg says club will stage protest at July's Demo Convention. (Photo: Rink)

tion? "I hope that they will be constructive, helping to move our agenda inside the hall forward. Those demonstrating outside should keep in mind that we will have numerous Lesbian and Gay party officials and delegates inside. Let us hope," Chorlton continued, "that the demonstrators will target Ronald Reagan and the Republicans who had made policies and appointed people that have detrimental to us all."

Meanwhile, the local Stonewall Gay Democratic Club is beginning to organize

a nonviolent mass action at the convention. Club president Paul Boneberg is hopeful of drawing several thousand Gay people to a demonstration outside of the convention hall. He commented: "We shall speak against the legalized discrimination which occurs daily throughout America, denying Lesbian and Gay people such basic rights as fair housing, employment, custody of our children, or freedom from violent attack. We shall speak out for massive increases in funding for the research of AIDS, which is killing our people."

McGovern Issues Gay Rights Statement

"The legacy of the Civil Rights movement in this country extends to all people and groups," George McGovern said this week, "who have been the victims of discrimination, and that most certainly includes members of the Gay community."

The unfortunate truth is that prejudice runs deep in this country, and much of that prejudice is based upon sexual orientation."

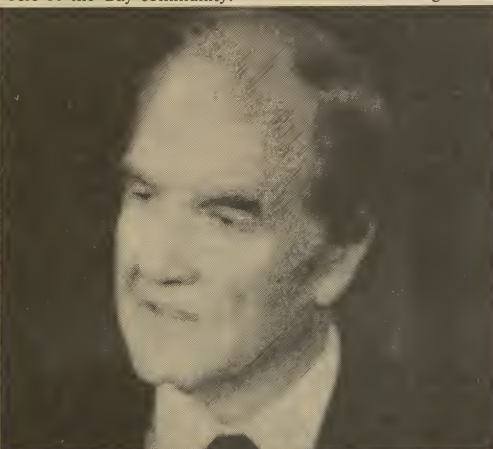
The Democratic Party presidential candidate issued a statement which urged "as

a nation and as individuals, we need to write such discrimination into history and out of the law. We must put an end to anti-Gay discrimination in the social, political, professional, economic, and religious life of our nation."

McGovern called for a national concern over AIDS "because it has already taken the lives of too many Americans — not merely because of the fear that it will spread into all sectors of American society."

McGovern was strongly supported by many Democrats in the Gay movement in his 1972 presidential bid. It was the campaign for McGovern that launched the local Toklas Democratic Club. The founder of Toklas, Jim Foster, was a dynamo in the McGovern campaign.

"I believe," McGovern concluded, "that my record on Gay rights is a consistent one. It is also a clear one: The time has long passed to end all forms of discrimination predicated on sexual orientation."



George McGovern comes out four-square for Gay rights as John Glenn takes a moon walk.

Man Rapes Sailor

San Diego Gets Life

Rudy Hoskins, 38, faces a mandatory life imprisonment sentence on December 5 for forcibly raping and robbing a 24-year-old sailor. A San Diego jury found Hoskins guilty last week of four counts of forcible sodomy and forcible oral copulation.

Trial testimony revealed that Hoskins met an intoxicated sailor on Broadway in

downtown San Diego about 10p.m. on April 28. He offered to help the new companion to find a prostitute. Later, in Hoskins' apartment, the sailor was allegedly forced to disrobe at knife-point. During the trial the sailor tearfully told the jury he suffered pain as he was raped. He said he was then orally copulated.

The alleged victim, who is married and has an infant

son, told the jury he discovered he had an erection. Hoskins, he claimed, was on his back with his legs in the air and demanded that he also be sodomized. The Navy man said he performed the act and climaxed.

Deputy District Attorney Bernard Revak treated the case as a forced rape — only this time male and male. Hoskins' attorney, Tom Bowden, claimed the acts were totally consensual. It was believed to be the first male rape trial tried in San Diego.

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Police/Gay Activists Square Off in LA Forum

by George Mendenhall

Three hundred Gay people came together in Los Angeles on Sunday, November 13 to air their grievances with the police department. The Hollywood Recreation center town hall was a 3-hour compilation of complaints and commentary about police conduct and policies. The center of attention was Police Commander Keith Allen, a community relations officer, who answered most of the questions. Noticably absent: Police Chief Daryl Gates.

Allen's response to many of the questions was, "Complaints should be directed to the local police stations." He stressed that officers charged with misconduct are investigated and that there "every-one should be afforded the same rights and services." Audience members had heard it all before.

General distrust of the police by Gay people in Los Angeles has a long and justifiable history. It includes several decades of police raids of Gay bars and steam baths, beatings of Gay people in the Gay Freedom Day parades, arrests of Gay people outside Gay bars for "drunk driving," and the refusal, until very recently, to even recognize the Gay community as a minority.

The Los Angeles Gay community is well aware of a 1982 statement made by Chief Gates that homosexuality is "unnatural" and his adamant refusal to consider Gay people for police academy training. Recent scandals revealed that the LAPD has been involved in many years of counter-intelligence

work that included the plain-clothes surveillance of Gay organizations. The LAPD was forced to disband the intelligence unit earlier this year on an order from the City Council.

Jim LaMaida, a co-sponsor of the recent forum, told this reporter that the situation has improved somewhat in recent months. The last major confrontation was in February when police officers determined that the De-tour bar was overcrowded. Instead of informing the owner of the problem, 15 police cars were called and the bar was forcibly emptied. LaMaida said some of those leaving claim they were called homophobic names such as "queer" and "fag" by officers.

The Hollywood forum, reported in a recent *Update* article, included these audience observations:

FEAR: Timothy Crotty of Dignity related that many Gay people "do not have any contact with the police department because they are

Gay." He said that Gays are afraid to report anything to the police.

BRUTALITY: One male complained that often officers shove Gay people around and give them "rough treatment." He was told by Allen, "Report any specific incidents in a police personnel complaint."

ABUSE: John O'Brien, manager of a popular Hollywood Blvd. adult store called Le Sex Shoppe, said police move into an area like an occupation army. He urged that many officers want a return to "the good old days" when they could do what they wanted to do without restrictions — as in the days of former Police Chief Ed Davis.

★ ★ ★

Representatives of the local sheriff's department and the city council attended the forum. It was organized by a Lesbian/Gay Police Advisory Task Force, operating under the city's Police Commission. Co-chair LaMaida told this reporter the task force will now analyze the testimony and present it to a panel of experts in sociology, psychology, and police practices. The end result is to be recommendations to the commission by February 1984.

LaMaida said one of the overall problems is that the



LA's Police Chief Daryl Gates

minority representation on the Police Commission itself does not include a Gay person. He also said Chief Gates has given only lip service to the city's nondiscrimination ordinance, which bars the denial of city employment based on one's sexual orientation. Gay officers, he explained, are afraid to come out either within or outside the department because of attitudes from the top. "Gay cops," he explained, "just don't want to even talk about it."

The refusal of Chief Gates to meet with Gay groups or to be interviewed by the Gay press in Los Angeles is a constant irritation. LaMaida,

however, is hopeful that the Hollywood town hall meeting will produce results sometime in the future to further open up communication between the L.A. police and Gay citizens.

The obstacles Los Angeles Gay activists face were made evident at the forum when the police representative on the Police Commission, Commander Jack White, told the assembled 300, "There is a difference between how people in this room see things and how it is perceived by society in general." Will there ever be Gay officers accepted at the academy? He was direct: "It isn't going to happen here." ■

'Panic' Defense Fails



DA Investigator Ron Huberman testified as an expert witness in Polk Street stabbing case. (Photo: Rink)

(Continued from page 1)
spiracy theory.)

Sausedo's defense was that he had two drinks and a tranquilizer and didn't remember a thing. The Public Defender took the tack that the defendant must have had a panic. And while he didn't use the words "homosexual panic," the PD alleged that his client acted under the blanket of self-defense. That he feared he would be raped by Bly in some sort of sadistic sex orgy. This was why French brought Huberman to the witness box to explain what goes on in back rooms in video shops. Huberman was on the stand for 1½ hours.

According to Bly he had come from the gym and had stopped into Frenchy's. Sausedo came into Bly's booth and he began unbuttoning Sausedo's trousers. With that Bly got a knife in the stomach. Sausedo used a fixed blade, double-edged weapon. Bly grappled with Sausedo and began screaming. Attendant Samuel Johnson rushed to Bly's aid and testified that when he encountered the pair, Sausedo still displayed a full erection.

Sausedo fled, but he was followed across the street into

the Locker Room by a witness. Police were summoned and with the help of attendant Joseph Ruan they discovered Sausedo hiding in the back of the video booths. The police couldn't find the knife, but Ruan went back into the premises and searched further and found it. Both attendants testified at the trial.

EXCLUSION OF GAYS

Employing another discriminatory tactic, Billingsly excluded two Gays from the jury because they were Gay. French thereupon filed a Wheeler motion before Judge Larry Kay — charging that a class of people were being discriminated against in jury selection. French said that the judge warned Billingsly that if he persisted in the exclusion he would declare a mistrial in favor of the people. Billingsly took the advice and a Gay man ended up as one of the alternates. As the trial started one juror took sick and the Gay male replaced the ill juror — ending up as foreman of the panel.

The knifer will be sentenced December 15. ■

P. Lorch

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VOL. XIII NO. 47 NOVEMBER 23, 1983 NEXT ISSUE OUT: DECEMBER 1 NEXT DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 25

VIEWPOINT

LETTERS

Heating Up On 'Homosexual Panic'

Last week's action by the Alice Toklas Democrats at first glance looks like a radical move. To outsiders, the vote to drop support to any attorney, public or private, who uses or espouses the "homosexual panic" defense seems like cruel and unusual punishment.

Is the decision to refuse endorsements to current public officials and candidates for public office a matter of overkill? That question was being asked in both political and legal circles this week. The answer is: Yes it is, but it remains legitimate answer to those who would play fast and loose with both the legitimate interests of the Gay community and the truth. It was in particular the disregard for the truth that angered the Toklas Democrats at their November meeting.

Although the three-part resolution was directed at no one in particular, it was no secret that the targets were Public Defender Jeff Brown and his top lieutenant Peter Keane. Both have repeatedly defended the loathsome stratagem, and Keane has used it in all its ramifications in the Dana Holley case.

At their October meeting the Alice Demos introduced the issue of the use and misuse of the "homosexual panic" defense in the murder trial of a man who has admitted killing a Gay man during or after a homosexual episode. Both Brown and Keane were on hand to explain their actions and defend their use of the defense. Taking a lead from the successful use of the defense in San Francisco (the bastion of homosexuals) where a man walked away free after admitting to the savage stabbing murder of Gangway Suzie, the defense has spread all over the state. If it works in San Francisco, what's to deny it in "Redneckville."

The October debate was an acerbic one. The attitudes of Brown and Keane were said to have been defensive and hostile. To allegations of what went on in the Holley trial and what was said, they had their authoritative versions. Public Defender Brown said that there was no such thing as a "homosexual panic" defense, but that it was a phrase invented by this newspaper to sensationalize the matter.

The issue was tabled, but the Alice Political Action Committee did not take the rebuff lying down. Last week Chair Greg Day brought in the trial transcripts. Excerpts were simply read to the membership, and the discrepancy between what the Public Defenders said went on and what the record showed were far from harmonious. In anger over being duped, the membership in an almost unanimous vote censored the "panic" defense and its advocates.

This week we learn that the defense in another of its variations was employed by another San Francisco Public Defender in a stabbing of a Gay man in a porno/video booth. The other plays were in place: a systematic attempt to exclude Gays from the jury and accusing the prosecutor and the District Attorney's office of a political conspiracy. As in the Holley case, it didn't work. One can only wonder if the plan didn't have the blessing of the Public Defender's top brass.

What can one conclude? This week we honor the fifth anniversary of the assassination of Gay leader Harvey Milk. The attorney for killer Dan White in demonstrating that his client was not guilty used the now infamous twinkie defense. The diminished capacity defense (the killer couldn't help it) of which the "homosexual panic" defense is but a variant.

In 1978 District Attorney Joe Freitas was in charge of a lackluster prosecution of the Dan White case — allowing the travesty "twinkie defense" to prevail.

(Continued on next page)

Country Club Call

* There has been some confusion of late as to the nature of the business I recently opened in the Castro. The Castro Country Club is an attempt to creatively address the issue of isolation in the Gay community. The CCG is a drug-free and alcohol-free social club for men and women. Anyone who desires a drug-free, alcohol-free social environment is welcome to join.

It is my belief that drugs, alcohol, separatism, loud music, and dark, crowded social environments have all served to isolate us from one another. I have tried to address all of these issues at the Club. The Castro Country Club is not associated with any drug or alcohol recovery program. Many of our members are actively pursuing clean and sober lifestyles, and a casual observer would become aware of this at the Club. Many of our members are not involved with the pursuit of this lifestyle, but simply enjoy the Club for a good conversation or a game of cards or backgammon. All are welcome at the Club.

I do not wish my business to become associated with any recovery program. This would only serve to exclude many men and women who simply want a human, way to socialize. I want everyone to feel welcome and included.

Steve Harris, owner
Castro Country Club
San Francisco

On Jim Ostlund

* While I wholeheartedly support freedom of speech and of the press, I find it very difficult to believe that B.A.R. printed the un-truths and contempt presented by a George Buchanan in his Letter-to-the-Editor, (B.A.R., November 3, 1983, page 9), entitled "Post-Mortem."

If Buchanan "knew Mr. Ostlund quite well," or even *at all*, he could not have written his next two paragraphs, which have nothing to do with Jim Ostlund, but rather, are Buchanan's way of showing his contempt for every bar, bar owner, and bartender.

I worked with Jim Ostlund and Castro Station from the bar's inception on May 18th, 1975 thru June 10th, 1981 as senior bartender and finally as manager. After six years of almost daily contact with Jim, I could write a list of his good and positive points that would easily fill several pages of any newspaper. He was my friend, my boss, and my emperor. Jim loved to see people happy. He loved and trusted his fellow human beings. While not quite a saint, James E. Ostlund was one of the best men I have known in my 39 years on this Earth.

It is regrettable that George Buchanan did not know Jim Ostlund; he missed knowing one darn good man.

Douglas C. Kopecky
San Francisco

Ode to Debra Stein

I'll have no leather
I'll have no drag
No Widow Norton
No obvious fag.
No Butchy dykes
no punked-out gnomes
only those wholesome
political clones.
I'm here to judge
to clear the swine
I'm the question-asexual
Debra Stein.

Randy Schell
San Francisco

Badmouthing NAMBLA

* Evelyn Lantz, who's running for sheriff, asserts that "San Francisco is an international center for drug-running, terrorist safehousing, and organized pederasty like that associated with the North American Man/Boy Love Association (NAMBLA)." (Wayne Friday, "Politics & Poker," B.A.R. October 13)

Lantz is wrong to imply that the level of pederasty in our city may be due to NAMBLA. It's doubtful how much impact we have had on the sexual orientation of the population of San Francisco, though we like to think boys and men attracted to one another can come out through a group such as ours.

In any event, we don't as an organization engage in the activities that people like Ms. Lantz work so hard to keep outlawed. Instead, we call into question so-called age-of-consent laws, which protect no one and instead harm a great many gay men and gay young people. But no doubt Ms. Lantz is unable to imagine that anyone under the age of 18 could identify themselves as gay; that would, after all, weaken their straight parents' control over them.

Lantz made her remarks in her Candidate's Statement of Qualifications, which is mailed to all registered voters. The last part of her statement, which Mr. Friday didn't print, is even more interesting. She promises that upon election she will "clean out organized crime [presumably covering us], drugs and terrorism, including persons 'above suspicion.'" Well! Are there queers in high places? Sounds like she's brewing a witchhunt.

Wayne Friday didn't buy Lantz' qualifications. Instead, he called her a "creep." It's well that Friday (who, as he said, has no love for us) would recognize her fag-baiting for what it is. When Ms. Lantz goes down to defeat in November, it will likely be due to just such middle-of-the-road gays — and straights — who will not countenance her brand of scurrility.

Mark McHaffry
NAMBLA
San Francisco

"Billy" . . . or rather . . . "Billy-ous"

* Phones on the butt . . . bananas on the butt . . . shower shots . . . all very cute and done with a certain flair that indicates imagination. But my dear, after you have taken that shower . . . please eat the banana (you are horribly undernourished), take that phone off your ass and call for help.

You are taking yourself far too seriously . . .

Wicked Wanda
San Francisco

Be More Respectable

* I've been an avid reader of B.A.R. for quite some time now and I think your paper is the most thorough and interesting around. It keeps me well up to date on the Gay issues and, being an aspiring Gay activist, it is a very important tool in these times.

However, there is a "however" . . . I must join the list that criticizes the blatant pornography (in pictures and articles) that "adorns" your paper. Yes, I've heard the line that we are a different type of people from the straights and that we can set our own standards of behavior, but I definitely feel that there is a place for nudity, etc., and if somebody is into that scene they can pick it up in the bookstores.

I can easily see why the population at large despises us, when they can pick up your free paper on the street, see only the blatant trash, and then submit it to groups like the Moral Majority as evidence of how sex-crazed and perverse we all are, reaping upon ourselves dreaded diseases as a result. I, for one, would like to be portrayed in a more respectable light.

Debbie Miller
San Francisco

B.A.R.

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LETTERS

On Eddie Murphy

★ The following mailgram was sent to Mr. Frank Biondi, president of Home Box Office, in New York City on November 4, 1983:



Dear Mr. Biondi:

As Gay professionals in the television industry we are appalled by the homophobic slurs made by Eddie Murphy in his special, which you have produced and are airing. It is bad enough that he makes such derogatory remarks, but especially reprehensible is the medical misinformation he gives out about AIDS. This broadcast can have real and devastating effects on people's lives.

I am sure you are aware a large percentage of your subscribers are Gay (given our concentration in urban areas and relatively larger percentage of disposable income). If you continue in this policy of presenting such anti-Gay material, and if a public apology is not forthcoming, we fully intend to lead a national campaign to encourage all Gay and sympathetic subscribers to disconnect from your service.

Peter Adair
Robert Epstein
Thomas O'Shea

Richard Schmiechen
Deborah Hoffman
Dennis McGowan
Gregory Bex

Divas

★ So what if Dame Joan is out of the step-and-clutch school of acting (*B.A.R.* 11/10/83) — I'll take a breathing Sutherland over an expired anyone, no matter how fondly remembered. (And when comparing *Normas* in the same state, I'll take a dead Ponselle over a dead Callas). The voice is the thing: Let Mr. Dick Gac close his eyes if he is offended. Better still, perhaps he should donate one ticket to a poor student and buy a bottle of really good wine with the other. Then he can stay home with his recordings and handsome date while dishing Caballe, the Prices, Nilsson, Horne, Ludwig and other superb singers who are not exactly Eleonora Duse. Be sure the new friend is impressed by such mouthings.

Woody Underwood
San Francisco

P.S.: I am a bit (!) over 29 and have experienced the ecstasy and agony of Callas' live performances. I hope Mr. Gac was able to see her in person.

Something for Everyone

★ After reading and enjoying many issues of *B.A.R.*, I am struck by what seems to be controversy over its contents. Since I like to know the current events and opinions surrounding being gay, I must say I feel the *B.A.R.* reflects the diversity present in our community. I find all types of interesting positions spoken for in the *B.A.R.*, from the prudish and self-denigrating to the exuberantly sexual and loving.

We all have in common our humanness. It's wonderful to be part of a community so diverse, creative, and expressive.

Thank you for the hard work and courage it takes to even attempt to represent us all.

Marc Demian
San Francisco

Spa Sexings

★ My wife and I are third generation San Franciscans and one of the things we love doing after dinner is scanning the reading material now found all over the city. We love the *B.A.R.*! You've given our household a particularly healthy and positive-looking view of the ENTIRE S.F. community.

We were fascinated and interested in a letter complaining and referring to the sexual promiscuity in the YMCA rather than in a "gay" gym. We are both members of the Exec Spa, and I am constantly doing about-turns and double-takes, exiting from the steam room or dry sauna for fear of interrupting two men making it. I honestly resent the fact that it chips into my time at the gym and a good steam, which I dearly need at the end of a workday. Unfortunately, about five months ago someone was beaten to a pulp in the steam room because he approached a straight who didn't have a sense of humor or an inclination to switch. We got muttered bits and pieces of the story when the attendants pulled them out; apparently the straight "panicked" ... er, ah, "freaked." Gads, the poor gay kid's face looked like raw hamburger; everyone gulped and nearly cried. The jock was duly thrown out onto the street and the victim (?) was sent off with some medics. From what I understand, they were both black-balled.

Our gay neighbors tell us there are countless places where they could go to meet and have sex, that are specifically intended for such purposes. Why don't they go there instead of mixed gyms? Has it to do with health and cleanliness? I really don't know or understand. Comments, please.

Charles and Karla Tetievski
San Francisco

Balancing Act

★ So now the story is out: AIDS is not confined to white gay men, Haitians, hemophiliacs, or intravenous drug users.

Dion Sanders' expose that AIDS knows no racial barriers is both shocking and a long-overdue revelation.

When a group of black teenagers on the Muni Metro taunted me with shouts of "AIDS, AIDS!" I shoved Sanders' story in their faces and said, "Read THIS, smart-asses!" As I stepped off the train, I could hear about a half-dozen cries of "Oh, shit!" spewing forth from their mouths.

Thank you, Mr. Sanders. Maybe now the punks will keep their mouths shut.

John W. Steele
San Francisco

P.S.: My apologies for my "Too Much Color" letter of September 29. Now I see what you were getting at.

CUAV Congrats

★ I'd like to thank Diane Christensen and the Community United Against Violence for the magnificent effort they made for all of us Saturday and Halloween night. The crowds those nights were much nastier than we usually live with in the Castro, but it seemed so much safer with well-lit monitors throughout the area.

Tony Jasinski
San Francisco

Tainted

★ "Whatever is almost true is quite false, and among the most dangerous of errors, because being so near truth, it is more likely to lead astray." Henry Ward Beecher. With that as literary backdrop, I would like to correct the "almost true" role of Jon Berliner, my client, with the Adams Estate and Gay International, Inc. as attributed to him in the November 3rd edition of the *B.A.R.*

First, Mr. Berliner has never been an agent of the company for which the SEC suspended stock trading (on the anniversary of Bob Adams' death). Mr. Berliner's role was limited to the supervision of the distribution of the 1983 edition of the directory. When the task was completed he terminated any association with the business to devote his full energy, time, and talents to the *Gay Communities Directory*, aka *The Gay Book*.

In regard to the listing of Mr. Berliner as the Vice President/Secretary-Treasurer, such was done without his consent. Mr. Berliner is a man of great integrity. He worked hard to keep the commitment to advertisers that their ads would reach the Gay consuming public. He had no control of the publication, beyond distribution, once the publication was in the hands of Alfred Cassidy.

Lastly, let me assure you that Mr. Berliner never was nor gave the impression that he was an agent for the Adams heirs. Quite the contrary, he formed a company to purchase the directory from the heirs so he could print and distribute the 1983 edition. When that failed he graciously assisted in the distribution of the book and subsequently initiated *The Gay Book*, a competitor to the *Gay Areas Directory*.

While neither Jon nor I have any comment on the allegations placed against Gay International, Inc., and for the sake of the investors hope that the SEC is wrong, it is important that Jon and his business not be painted by the broad strokes of your brush tainted by the alleged illegal activities of Gay International, Inc.

Daniel N. Silva
Attorney at Law
San Francisco

ED. NOTE: Thank you for the literary lesson — one suspects a lesson in the connotative problems of language.

In dealing with words, broad strokes are as prone to missing the mark as are fine strokes. Your opening line is applicable to your subsequent remarks as it is to ours.

I never wrote or suggested Gay International did anything illegal. It seems your fears for your client's being tainted rest on suspicions other than mine.

P. Lorch

On Turkeys

★ Americans, irrespective of political alliances, economic or educational status, sexual orientation, or specific gender, have more to be thankful for this Holiday Season — ushered in, as it were, by "Turkey Day," than any other people on Earth.

We are a free society composed of men (collectively used) who cherish personal liberty and respect the individual rights of others.

If we so choose, we may alter our Governing men, and our laws, in a unique manner which has stood the test of more than two hundred years, and yet, unlike most others, sees neither loss of property or life.

Our Judiciary, imperfect though it may be, is superior to all others, and its imperfection lies only in the fact that it, like our Democratic Republic is entrusted to men.

My Country, right or wrong — but always my Country!

Thomas M. Edwards
San Francisco

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VIEWPOINT

(Continued from previous page)

(And there were no Gays on that jury either.) Freitas was driven from office in 1979 in disgrace — partially on charges that he threw the Dan White prosecution. He was finished in San Francisco politics.

The lesson should not be lost on either Jeff Brown or Peter Keane. It is no secret that Jeff Brown, a long-time friend of the Gay community, has ambitions beyond his current post. In addition, it would be a natural for deputy Peter Keane to fill his shoes as Public Defender.

However as each month passes and they persist in defending these sinister courtroom stratagems, and then tell about what went on in words that are less than the truth, they equally persist in digging their own political graves — in particular with the Gay community, and they will have a hard time rationalizing it to the general public. By advocating that one shouldn't be punished severely for killing a Gay man, they will find a favorable reception only among homophobes.

This paper and the California Gay community will not rest until there is a reform in the law. That reform will make it less attractive for murderers to walk away free from slaying a Gay person, less cause to keep Gays off juries, less allure to foster homophobia among non-Gay jurors, less obsession that people who seek changes are part of any conspiracy to derail the judicial system.

Dan White is no more an anathema to the Gay community and the liberal/progressive citizen than is Dana Holley. They are unrepentant killers both. Brutal murderers who are proud that there remains open season on the killing of Gay men because they are Gay.

Paul Lorch

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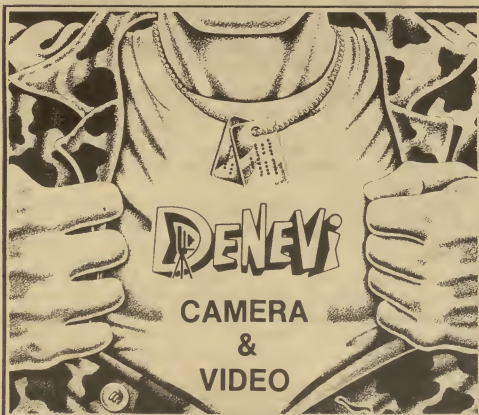
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LETTERS

Jose Apology

★ I think many people don't know the history behind Jose Sarria as the Widow Norton. Amazing that so many immigrants to Sodom by the Sea don't know the slightest thing about the original Norton I, Emperor of the United States and Protector of Mexico.

You see, Joshua Norton was a respectable businessperson who spent his life savings on a get-rich-quick scheme to corner the rice market, what with the high Chinese population in our fair city. Unfortunately for him, he was undercut in his prices and freaked out.

Nobody saw Joshua Norton for a while, until one day, when he returned to San Francisco, declaring himself Emperor. He and his two dogs, Lazarus and Bummer, were treated to free meals and hotel lodging in the Gay 90's days of a much more free-spirited San Francisco. He had his own money printed, and spent it for anything he wanted. Norton was given free rides on the cables and horsecars, and he became quite a local curiosity.

The local papers devoted space to his proclamations, among which were his orders that feats of technical impossibility be carried out. People laughed at him. After all, everyone knew it was impossible to build a bridge strong enough to span the Golden Gate! Not only that, he ordered that mass transportation be done by rail across the bay and Golden Gate. (Newcomers to San Francisco don't know it, but from 1936 until 1958 we did indeed fulfill Norton's wish by running electric trains on the bottom deck of the Bay Bridge.) When he died in the early days of this century, 30,000 people marched down Market Street in his funeral procession.

Which leads us to Jose Sarria. When people think of Gay Emperor and Empress titles, they have no idea that these charity fundraising institutions were all started as a result of Jose Sarria's attempt to carry out the tradition of a crazed Emperor Norton.

However, this is 1983. Super-serious political clubs like Toklas are so wound up in being "respectable" that they have no time for the levity and goodwill of the Norton Tradition. It's unfortunate that so many Gaypeople forget what being Gay is all about.

I'd just like to say to Jose Sarria that I respect him. I'd like to apologize for the rude people at Alice B. Toklas Democratic Club who wouldn't let him appear in drag as the Widow Norton. I'm sure that Alice B. Toklas herself would be screaming right now to know of such an injustice.

David Kaye
San Francisco

On Billy Jones Pieces

★ Your two-part series on black gay activist Billy Jones was informative and well done. I hope it will create needed dialogue within the gay community on issues raised by Jones such as black visibility, black-white relations, gay issues in the black community, and coalition-building.

Here's plenty of material for future B.A.R. articles and interviews.

Bob Hass
San Francisco

A Renaissance

★ In June of 1982 I made my first trip to San Francisco and the one ongoing effect of that trip has been my addiction to the *Bay Area Reporter*. It has helped me learn about your beautiful city and realize much more of the daily experiences that are part of everyday life there. Reading the "Letters" in your Open Forum has finally prompted me to sit down and express my appreciation to you for the exciting publication you put together. You have helped me see beyond the starry-eyed gaze of a tourist into the workings of an incredible city and an involved gay population. Sometimes it is frightening, as in the article on "Homosexual Panic" Defense and the CUA reports and updates, but it is always engrossing and honest.

I am becoming caught up in Chuck Forester's "Planning San Francisco" columns, especially since I would like to relocate to San Francisco someday. It is encouraging to know that responsible people are aware of the changes going on around them and have enough foresight to try and shape the future. Housing is a primary horror here in NYC, so it is comforting to read about gay men who are anxious to address that issue before it's beyond repair. I hope he and "Michael" can continue to agree on his presentation and subject — they inspire me.

One letter in your October 27th issue is the real impetus for this connection. "Working at Celibacy" from A.M. renewed me and I have to attempt to thank him. I have been celibate for a year now and have come to know many other gay men who are making this choice to re-establish contact with their loving self — to get out of the competition and the hunt for dick, ass, conquest, cum, or whatever noun you choose for the obsession. It is an incredible reward for me to realize that I have taken a major step forward for myself by breaking from my addiction to cock and I am heading toward caring for people as "people" again. The compulsion has been lifted from me and that is a miracle for someone who had sex at the head of my priorities.

I am getting in touch with a new me and learning to see gay men for more than the size of their dick, the curve of their ass, or how "hot" they look. It's not always easy or simple, but then along comes encouragement and support from people like A.M. to remind me that I am okay and it is worth all the struggle to change and grow. I now also look forward to having sex complement and enhance a relationship built on more than the old, empty, instantly gratified "base" of my past,

which never got built much further than the sexual climax of orgasm.

Life is a wonderful journey and I am so happy to be back on a path leading somewhere positive and enriching. Celibacy does work and can change your perspective on everything.

Thanks for being, and working so hard at what you do so well. Please remember that there are many of us out here beyond San Francisco who love you and admire your work. I hope to meet you one day to thank you in person.

If you can somehow convey my thanks to A.M. for his eloquent inspiration, I promise to continue to buy the *Bay Area Reporter* and support you and that staff of yours. You help to make me proud I am a gay man.

Richard Jordan
New York, NY

Tough Guy's Talk

★ Shouts of glee and happiness resounded through South of Market last weekend when the rumor ran rampant that Karl Stewart had been fired from B.A.R. because of his drunken demands for free drinks from a bartender at the Eagle for himself and his drag queen lover, because he stated he writes about the place and should therefore get free drinks on the house because of it. But only a rumor.



Diamond Lils and diamonds in the rough — during costume time. Is there a difference between his and hers? (Photo: Rink)

I have been reading your letters column and frankly, I cannot understand why you persist in thrusting this man's trivia about drag queens, Grand Dukes and Duchesses and rock stars, poets and other entertainers when his column is supposed to be about the leather scene in this town. Quite frankly, it is disgusting to me and a lot of other people to see your leather columnist wandering around the South of Market area wearing makeup and earrings (the long rhinestone dangling ones) and then to write about everything except what real leather men are about and their activities. Who gives a shit about a bike club getting up in drag and putting on dresses in the spirit of camp? I do not. If he is going to be a reporter on the leather scene, why do you print all that garbage about drag queens,nelly queens who belong on Polk Street, and other bullshit totally unrelated to leather men and leather bars?

I truly grieve for you and your efforts at reporting the leather scene; I do enjoy whatever other efforts you expend to make the B.A.R. a class act, but your perception of leather and the leather scene through the eyes of Karl Stewart is at a nadir from which there seems to be no upward redemption. His version of the leather lifestyle is much different than mine or anyone else's that I know. Yes, better to ignore the whole scene than to write about things that are totally alien, totally unacceptable, totally mistaken, and totally sophomoric to anyone, everyone, and aspirants to the leather scene which, in San Francisco, is unparalleled in any city in the world. Too bad. Too bad.

Sid(ney) Apostopoulos
San Francisco

ED. NOTE: Thank you for pointing out the difference between leather and drag.

P. Lorch

Restaurant Regrets

★ I'd like to express my regret to one of our customers at Dish for whatever part the restaurant played in misplacing the sunglasses he lost. Since I had already discussed the issue with him personally, I'm surprised and sorry to be responding to a letter in a newspaper (B.A.R., Nov. 10). If I was impatient with him several weeks later when he came in to retrieve his property, I also regret that. It is just difficult for a restaurant to be responsible for all the personal property people leave behind. However, we've reviewed our procedure for lost items and are determined to keep better track of them.

To be more positive, Dish certainly does appreciate its friends very much. We try to show it with "simple food well prepared" and with good, friendly service. The appreciation seems to be mutual, since customer comments, our business, and published reviews are all really encouraging. (This month's *San Francisco* magazine has some great things to say about our weekend brunch.) So please, get hungry and try us. But please keep an eye on your own belongings. Dish may still be better at food than it is at lost and found.

Michael Jackson
Dish, Haight & Masonic
San Francisco

LETTERS

Dish Backer

★ I was surprised to read a letter recently denouncing one of the Haight's nicest restaurants, Dish. Since I have had so many delicious meals there, I hasten to the defense of this truly quality establishment.

Since Dish opened, I have had countless lunches and dinners there with gays, lesbians, and straights of both the male and female persuasion, and have never had a negative experience, except the night my lover and I got back from a long vacation and headed directly for Dish for our first SF meal in many weeks and they had run out of food! The staff has always gone that extra mile to make sure the meal was cooked and served to the satisfaction of the customer. Michael Jackson could not be nicer to either his customers or his staff. Since the place is usually packed at meal times, I can only assume that most of Dish's customers enjoy this jewel of a restaurant to the same extent.

Having left my favorite hat in Vanessi's once, I can understand how aggravating it can be to try to retrieve something left behind in a restaurant. Perhaps Michael Jackson should have offered the irate customer a dish to make up for the loss. But neither Dish, his staff, nor he deserve to be trashed, even by royalty.

Jack Collins
San Francisco

No Dish for Dish

★ In times of invasions, wars, bombings, and other man-made disaster, it may seem strange to write in over what, in comparison, is a minor matter. However, I am not a Marine (more of a Marcen), never been to Lebanon nor Grenada, but I do eat. So Mr. Johnson's letter of 11/11 concerns me more. He described Dish as the "latest hamburger sensation" and went on to whine about the place. Please allow me a few responses.

I am not employed by Dish in any way, but I do eat there with great frequency. I have talked with the owner, Mr. Jackson, at great length and found him to be a fanatic about good food and giving his customers value. Never before in a restaurant have I seen items removed from the menu because they didn't measure up to the standard. They are at Dish. The staff is one of the last great professional staffs that make you feel like you're having dinner at a close friend's house and not a public place. They make you welcome, and I felt they were honestly glad to be of service.

Perhaps for me the tone of the place was set on my first visit. I wandered in more by mistake than design. Once there, I noticed a lamp that was made by a man I lived with and loved who died two years ago. How much this lost treasure of our time together meant to me I can only hope to convey. I told the staff this and also said I would pay any amount for the lamp. The staff told me that under no circumstances would I be allowed to pay for the lamp, but that they would be honored if I would take it as a gift. Rearranging their display to remove the lamp was not easy, but they cared. With all the emotion I felt, I could not finish the superb grilled steak and '81 Kenwood Cabernet Blanc I was eating.

In conclusion, thank you all for letting me say something nice about a place and people that deserve to hear it more and don't hear it enough. If I ever want to see me, just drop by Dish sometime, as I am there as often as I can afford to eat out.

Steve Stapleton
San Francisco

Black and White Racism

★ It seems unfortunate to me that such a racist letter as Mr. Steele's ("Too Much Color," B.A.R. Letters, 9/29) can only be responded to with an equally racist one ("Prissy Letters," B.A.R. Letters, 11/3). What is accomplished by this bandying of name-calling and stereotyping?

Mr. Steele's letter rather shallowly makes reference to a supposed excess of black oriented articles and advertising in recent issues of the B.A.R. Looking through a recent issue, I certainly didn't notice any disproportionate percentage of black oriented material relative to the percentage of blacks in the gay community. In fact, there's still much too little of it. Mr. Steele's letter propagates the stereotypical notion that those nasty blacks are trying to take over everything! His letter has a decidedly racist tone.

In response, however, we get Mr. Dollak's diatribe against "prissy, lily-white gays," a phrase which, let's admit it, is just as racist as any derogatory term used against blacks, and possibly sexist too. Mr. Steele is also called a "petty complainer know-nothing" and "ninny." These remarks show a stereotypical impression of white people as sheltered and effete (perhaps even effeminate?) clods who don't know anything about the real world. His letter is indicative of a belief of too many black people that treating white people as poorly as they've been treated somehow rectifies the tragic injustices of racism. It seems to me, however, that this attitude escalates hostility and misunderstanding and so furthers racism. Besides, racism is anything but "prissy."

Mr. Dollak also attacks whites for only screaming discrimination when they are on the receiving end of it. Sad to say, but this is really just human nature to some extent; isn't it? You don't see black leaders doing a whole hell of a lot for gay rights; do you?

Again I ask, what was accomplished by these two letters? A bunch of pointless negative feelings, if you ask me.

John Morrison
San Francisco

On Prison Problems

★ I have sent you a copy of the November issue of the Gaycon Press because it deals with a subject that the gay and straight communities both have a tendency to overlook. I was contacted last week by an individual here in San Francisco who was working on a speech on prison rape. It was his interest in the subject that prompted me to devote most of the space in the November newsletter to homosexual rape in the prison system. If you could, please, include an article in your paper dealing with this subject. We, the gay community, should be aware of the problem, and since the straight community is rather apathetic about it, maybe it is up to us to do something about it!

Also, on the subject of prisoners altering money orders, please print this warning to the community:

The gay community should be aware that writing a gay prisoner can be a great experience. But be warned, there are prisoners who will take advantage of you. If you want to write a prisoner, by all means do so. They can be fantastic pen-pals, but do not cash money orders for them or get too personally involved. There are guys who will use you to their advantage, but on the same token, you might end up with a super friend for life. If anyone would like to write a prisoner, I have a list of about 200 gay prisoners who would welcome the chance to write to someone.

Kim Walters, Assoc. Editor
Gaycon Press
P.O. Box 6437
San Francisco, CA 94101

Monkey Business As Usual

★ The aims of the gay rights movement haven't really changed since I came out 20 years ago. In fact, the current participants are just as immature as those of yore. Take the AIDS crisis: people are really suffering and dying and our alleged "leaders" (those jealous @#%&@&) spend time arguing about who does this or that better. Who the hell cares? The constant bickering should end, in favor of jointly working towards a cure.

Herb Levy
San Francisco

Fisters Aren't Dopers

★ W. A. Crawford, in his letter titled "Fisted," appears to vent a lot of hostility about some of the action he's missing. I only question why he lumps us fist fuckers together as a bunch of drug abusers. A lot of us just talk dirty and use a lot of spit.

C'mon, open up, man.

Peter
San Francisco

ED. NOTE: How about dopey, then?

P. Lorch

Opera Tails

★ I should very much like to suggest to Mr. Gae that any assessment of Mr. McEwen and his San Francisco seasons must take into account those years at London Records and the "British-school-tie" type relations formed during those years. It is no mere accident that most of the operas mounted here in his brief tenure have had star singers from England or from the London Records stable: Lorengar, Resnik, Sutherland, Horne, Pavarotti, Gwyneth Jones, Freni, and Ghiaurov come to mind immediately. Unfortunately, I have not a catalogue on hand to continue. Even Virginia Zeani, an old London Records "no-seller," was brought back from oblivion to please us. And what should we say of Giacomo Aragall? Shouldn't he really be allowed to continue playing soccer in Spain rather than have him return to insult us with his no-voice-left artistry? It was the worst Tosca ever seen in a major opera house, I believe. Justino Diaz's cape had spangles beyond the wildest dreams of a drag queen. It might be the perfect gear for a San Francisco police chief.

But if ever proof were needed to reveal Big Mac's British bent, let me recall the greatest Britification we have had to endure to date: I speak of A Midsummer Marriage. The Brits really got together and mustered all their school-boy-ties to palm off on us a rather silly, sophomoric work as the greatest thing since Boadicea. The media was hyped to such a degree that not one of the critics dared tell of the tedium he endured and that the Composer et Poet (I use this latter loosely) makes Hermann Hesse seem vastly profound. The je-june symbolism of the libretto — did he say Jungian? — makes for scarlet blushes. One critic claims he came away with his head full of the opera's melodies. I'd like to hear him repeat one. One knew one was being had when the Big Berthas of Andrew Porter, that encyclopedical critic of the New Yorker, another Commonwealth Brit like the Bonyne-Sutherland-Success-Factor, were focused on San Francisco to scare away criticism that could be noted. Porter rhapsodized so about the production in his review that I am convinced it gave him his first hard-on in years — more mental than physical I'd say, as the review is decidedly menopausal — or else someone sang "Rally Round the Flag Boys" to him. All in all, a great ripoff and a grand snow job to remember with tears. Even the usually fine Tessa Tura seems to have been seduced into a half-silence as to Big Mac's doings. Alas, I'm afraid we are in for a "long reign of Terry." Numi, Peta; numi, aita.

Harold Edmonds
San Francisco

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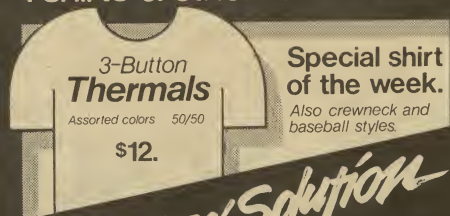


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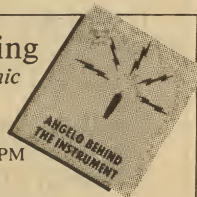


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Conservative Christians are Sexually Active

A survey of 365 single evangelical Christians in Colorado reveals that many are sexually active — in defiance of church teachings. Only 8% would admit to any homosexual activity, with 92% emphatically denying any same-sex relations. Masturbation was found to be popular, although it is frowned upon, with 27% revealing that they enjoy it more than once a week.

The survey of regular conservative churchgoers in Colorado was conducted by psychologist Bernard Spilka and social worker Jean Wulf of the University of Denver. They expressed surprise that there was so much sexual conduct by singles in an atmosphere where such activity is called "sinful."

Kissing and nongenital "petting" were practiced more than once a week by 27% of the 365 respondents. More than 50% said they had never engaged in premarital intercourse (59%) or oral sex (54%). Older singles indicated they had considerable more sexual activity than younger singles.

The researchers conclude that the 30-year-old sex sur-

vey by Alfred Kinsey has now been updated in their study. Kinsey indicated that single religious conservatives had considerably less sex at that time. The gap between what the church teaches and what people are, in reality, doing is narrowing.

Spilka and Wulf believe

that "there is considerable conflict in many devout Christians" because of the double standard. It is not surprising in the general frustration experienced by conservatives in the church, they emphasize, that almost 40% claim they have more than one sexual fantasy a week.

Church Leaders Head Up Moscone/Milk Memorial

Episcopal Bishop William E. Swing will host the Fifth Anniversary Moscone/Milk Thanksgiving Memorial at Grace Cathedral on Saturday, November 26, at 7 p.m. Participating in the event along with Bishop Swing will be: The Rev. John Shanahan, Chairman of the Commission for Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of San Francisco; The Very Rev. David Gillespie, Dean of Grace Cathedral; Ms. Leslie Bergson, Cantor, Congregation Sha'ar Zahav; The Rev. Dr. William D. Auld, President, Board of Directors, San Francisco Council of Churches; and The Rev.

Dr. Norman E. Leach, Acting Executive Director, San Francisco Council of Churches.

This Thanksgiving Memorial, held on the eve of the fifth anniversary of the assassination of Mayor George R. Moscone and Supervisor Harvey Milk, will provide the entire community of San Francisco with a nonpolitical spiritual and musical opportunity to commemorate the assassinations and to be an act of rededication to the spirit of nonviolence.

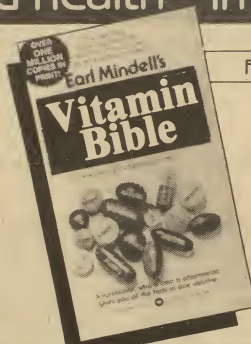
The evening's program will feature Gabriel Faure's *Requiem*, sung by Robin Kay's Pacific Lesbian and Gay Singers. The Interfaith Choir of San Francisco, under the direction of Tom Engram, will sing a variety of Negro Spirituals, including a medley of Negro Spirituals especially arranged for the evening. The Dick Kramer Gay Men's Chorus will also sing, among other selections, "I Understood" with text by Supervisor Milk.

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NOW to Sponsor Lesbian Rights Conference

"Lesbian Rights: Power and Politics in 1984" will be the theme of the National Organization for Women's conference on Lesbian Rights, January 20-22, 1984, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Workshops and plenary sessions will focus on Gay and Lesbian Campaigns and Candidates and Lobbying for Lesbian and Gay Rights. NOW President Judy Goldsmith and Action Vice President Mary Jean Collins will be among the speakers.

"This conference will be a landmark event for NOW and, we believe, for the Lesbian and Gay rights movement," Goldsmith said. "NOW has long had a policy of support for Gay and Lesbian rights, but this conference ushers in a new era of even more vigorous efforts. It is particularly significant that this conference is taking place at the beginning of a Presidential election year, as feminists and Lesbian and Gay activists are becoming an effective and powerful force."

She continued, "We are pleased to hold this conference in Wisconsin, the first state to pass a Lesbian and Gay rights law. This site will emphasize the victories we have won and will give us clear direction for future political action."

Registration is open to non-members of NOW and to both women and men. Details for registration and further information on workshops, speakers, and other conference activities are available from the NOW Action Center, 425 13th St., NW, Suite 723, Washington, DC 20004, Attn: Lesbian Rights Conference.

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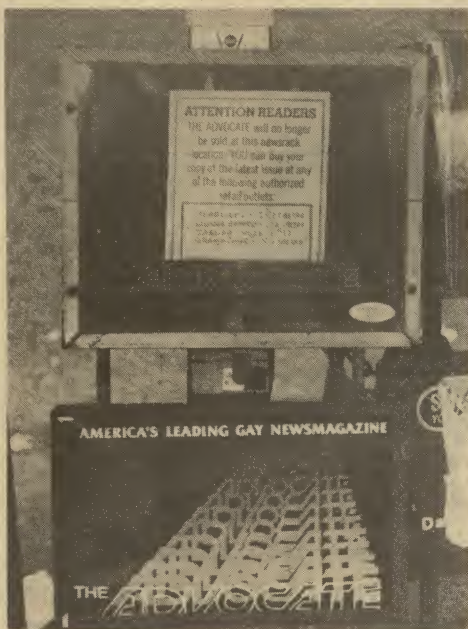
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Local Gay Media See Some Changes

Press For Sale, Radio Shuts Down



Advocate's San Francisco newsracks will be no more. The magazine proved too expensive for the street corner market. (Photo: Rink)

Five locally-distributed Gay publications are making dramatic changes this month. Most of the news was not good. One is up for sale, two are merging, a fourth has discontinued its newspaper racks, a fifth has been sold, and a radio show is ending.

The Sentinel: Publisher W. E. Beardemphl announced last week that the paper is being sold. He wrote that one of his partners wanted to become a country squire, and one desired to open a restaurant. WEB explained that he wants to write a book.

Its start up after a quarter of a million dollar bankruptcy in mid-1981 has not returned the paper to its former status. It is on its third news editor and has dwindled to a meager ten pages. Its founder, Beardemphl, who sold it at market price to Charles Lee Morris some five years ago, purchased it back from the bankruptcy court in late 1981 for a reported \$9000. The paper lost its office space on Howard Street and has stayed afloat on the financial support of non-Gay businessman George Banda. The question to be answered is who can afford the publication.

Vector/Voice: Vector discontinued publication after five issues and is being "merged" into *California Voice*. Publisher Paul Hardman will make the *Voice* weekly in San Francisco and bi-weekly in Southern California. Vector was launched in anticipation of the *Sentinel* closing down.

Castro Times: Managing



Popular Gay radio show host David Lamble will go off the air in station sale. Lamble says latest ending date is January 3.

Editor David Evans has purchased the magazine that appeared on an irregular monthly basis from Fred Brothers. It has been renamed the *New Castro Times* and intends to continue to be a Gay-ish publication that reaches "into the straight community also."

The Advocate: The national news roundup/feature magazine is removing its news racks

in San Francisco. Rack sales have declined here steadily and considerably, as the publication now requires seven quarters to release an issue. With well over a hundred racks scattered through the Bay Area, an average of only 700 were sold in a two-week period. Hundreds of copies were also purloined and several thousand returned. Also reported is that bit by bit more of the bi-weekly's operation is moving to Southern California.

Meanwhile David Lamble, founder and host of KGO weekend radio, is facing going off the air in a matter of weeks. The station has been sold and the talk-show format will not be continued.

"The David Lamble Talk Show" airs on Saturday and Sunday evenings from 7:05 to 10 p.m. on KGO-FM (104).

American Broadcasting Companies, Inc., owner of KGO-FM, has sold the station to the San Jose-based broadcasting company that owns KLOK-AM, and the new owners will change KGO-FM's call letters and all-talk format to adult-contemporary music. Lamble's contract has not been renewed.

The change-over takes effect at midnight, November 30.

Lamble's show was one of only four that was produced locally on the station, which aired the bulk of its programming from Los Angeles via the ABC Talkradio Network.

An effort to switch the Lamble show to sister station KGO-AM (810), which, according to Arbitron ratings, is the most listened-to radio station in Northern California and can be

heard throughout the West late at night, failed.

Although Lamble's show has been canceled, he is not leaving Bay Area radio. In addition to his own show, Lamble co-hosts the "Fruit Punch" Gay radio program on noncommercial station KPFA-FM in Berkeley. ■

This report was prepared by Dion Sanders, George Mendenhall, and Paul Lorich.

NGTF Seeks Nominees to Board of Directors

The Nominating Committee of the National Gay Task Force Board of Directors is seeking experienced Lesbian and Gay leaders from around the country for consideration as candidates for election to the Board. Prime criteria are expertise in and/or willingness to do fundraising, and a proven leadership role with a

Gay/Lesbian constituency. A balanced geographical representation on the Board is also a major factor in selecting candidates.

Membership on the 18-person Board is divided equally between men and women, with a third-world representation of at least 20 per-

cent. The Board meets several times a year, and a significant ongoing commitment is required between meetings. Interested persons should call or write NGTF (80 Fifth Ave., New York, NY 10011; 212-741-5800) prior to January 31, 1984.

At present, San Francisco is represented by three males: Jose Gomez (third world), David Kessler, and newly-elected Peter Fowler. ■

Male 'Bunnies' to Beef Up Playboy Clubs

Gay men may be flocking to the International Playboy Clubs in 1984 if the chain's current plan is successful. Although Edwin Gifford, a Playboy official, insists that the addition of male "bunnies" in 1984 at its New York City club is geared to attract women.

Will the new male waiters be groped as the female ones are now fondled? Will there be fluffy bunny tails, rabbit ears and tight clothes for the male bunnies also? Gifford says "We're talking to major designers, everything is open at this point. We are inviting fashion and wardrobe costume ideas from many sources." He adds, "Sexiness is in the eye of the beholder. We now have only 15% women customers." Gifford did not allow for the fact that he may end up with more male customers — Gay ones — when the policy is put into effect.

Adding to the confusion is the announcement from Larry Flint of *Hustler* magazine that Playboy's founder, Hugh Hefner, will be featured as the nude centerfold in the March 1984 issue. ■



Male bunnies made a Halloween splash here — next stop the Playboy Club. (Photo: Rink)

Los Angeles DA to Make First Appearance Before Gay Group

L.A. County District Attorney Robert Philibosian will make his first appearance before a Gay organization on Monday, November 28, when he speaks at the Southern Californian Republican Log Cabin Club's general membership meeting.

Philibosian directs the largest local prosecuting agency in the world with 2,000 employees, including 503 prosecutors. His priorities in the office include juvenile crime, gang violence, drug trafficking, and drunk driving. He has also recently initiated a program to prosecute computer fraud.

Philibosian joined the Los Angeles District Attorney's Office in 1968. He was Head Deputy-in-Charge of the Van Nuys Office when he resigned to join the Attorney General's Office at the request of then-Attorney General George Deukmejian. He served there as Chief Assistant Attorney General for the Criminal Law Division, prosecuting all of California's criminal appellate cases, trials for crimes committed by prison inmates, and the discipline of judges before the Judicial Performance Commission.

The 37th District Attorney of Los Angeles, Philibosian took office in January of 1983. When he was sworn in, he was praised by Sheriff Sherman Block as "a justice professional, a team player, and a great asset to the criminal justice system in Los Angeles." Presiding Court Judge Harry Peetris said Philibosian is "a highly competent, forceful prosecutor who is engrained with a fundamental sense of fairness."

Philibosian will be speaking before the Log Cabin Club at their dinner meeting at the Hyatt on Sunset.

The Log Cabin Club is an association of Republicans concerned about human rights. ■

A Dream Becomes Reality



Congregation Sha'ar Zahav's newly purchased and paid for Gay synagogue. (Photo: Rink)

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav has paid for a home of its own at 220 Danvers at Caselli, San Francisco.

The congregation, through the generous support of its members, its friends, and the community raised the needed \$200,000 in less than 10 months. A large portion of the money was raised by the

sale of raffle tickets for a chance to win a 1969 Silver Shadow Rolls-Royce (donated anonymously). The raffle raised \$72,800. In all, 1,456 of the 1,500 tickets printed were sold.

Sabbath services are held in the synagogue every Friday evening at 8:15 p.m. ■

Senator Roberti Honors Gay Bookstore

A State Senate resolution marking the fourth anniversary of A Different Light Bookstore in Hollywood, a store which has become a resource for the Gay community, was announced by the author, State Senator David Roberti (D-Hollywood).

Roberti, chairman of the Rules Committee and President pro Tempore of the Senate, explained that the store offers Lesbians and Gay men a well-rounded literary and cultural experience through its great variety of books and periodicals.

He said the store, while serving as a center for book signings and art shows, also serves readers outside the Los Angeles area through its newsletter and catalog, *Booked for Brunch?*, and its mail order system. It carries a selection of free booklets on health issues and handouts on candidates and issues during election campaigns.

"A Different Light Bookstore encourages high quality Gay literature and deserves our commendation for its role in building a better community," said Roberti. ■

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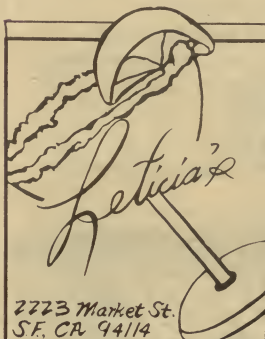


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Quick Hits

by Randy Schell



Self-defense education is the best protection say CUAV heads. (Photo: Rink)

I'm back with Quick Hits. Some of our readers sometimes question why I write this. "It's so gory — it's so negative." Perhaps it is. But, it is an example of what goes on in San Francisco at any time of the day or night — anywhere in San Francisco.

Since I began writing this column over three years ago, my attitude has changed both in the issue of anti-Gay violence and my reporting mechanism. However, it would appear that the community's attitude towards this issue is changing as well. Three years ago, it was almost unheard of that anyone would fight back and that the assailant would find him/herself receiving the same treatment rendered to the victim. That's the attitude change I have been through. I have changed with the community, and our expression has evolved from "woe is me" to "I'm not going to take this shit anymore." That does not mean that every victim gets the chance to swing back or prosecute the assailants. Far from it. But victims of anti-Gay violence have learned that it's all right to be pissed off, all right to be outraged, all right to swing back and all right to seek help when your dignity has been stripped by a thug or groups of thugs. It's all right to be outraged by violence on Muni or on the Street or in your home or anywhere.

Why do I write "Quick

Hits?" To let you know that violence exists. Where the violence exists. Who gets the chance to fight back. Who does not get the chance. Perhaps then, Quick Hits is an ominous reminder that all of us are potential victims. But, it's not only an ominous reminder of this potential. Hence the change of my reporting mechanism — it's a reminder that fighting back has its own potential. The potential to let the assailant know "I'm not going to take this shit anymore." And now, Quick Hits.

Market/Castro: The victim was in costume just prior to Halloween. As he was walking a man and a woman screamed to the victim and called him a "faggot." The woman urged her companion to "beat the shit out of that faggot." The assailant attacked the victim and hit him twice. Two passersby, seeing the assault, then came to the aid of the victim while the victim hit the suspect in the mouth, knock-

ing him to the ground. The suspect then managed to stand up and he and his companion fled the scene.

22-Fillmore: The victim of this verbal assault was sitting on the 22-Fillmore bus. A woman of approximately 50 years of age stood over the victim and said, "You had better wash your asshole or you'll die. You and your kind are sick and dying." The victim said, "Bigotry is a form of sickness." The assailant then told the victim, "I don't care if you're going to die." Both the victim and the assailant got off at the same corner but no further verbal harassment continued.

Church/Dolores at 18th: The victim was attacked by three males who were screaming, "Fucking faggots; fucking queers." All three of the assailants beat the victim in the chest with fists. The victim was knocked to the ground but managed to escape fists and feet and went immediately home. The victim called the police, who responded within ten minutes. The assailants were not apprehended.

3000 block of 17th Street: The victim was entering his house when he was attacked by two assailants. As they yelled anti-Gay epithets the victim removed his mace and sprayed it at the assailants. The assailants backed off and one of them threw a bottle. The bottle hit the victim in the face and broke. The victim's lip was severely cut. Out of anger, the victim ran towards the assailants. The assailants then began running away with the victim in hot pursuit. During the pursuit the victim saw an SFPD squad car and flagged the police down. The police pursued the assailants and apprehended them. A woman on the street who witnessed the arrest saw that the victim was bleeding and brought a washcloth to him. Passersby offered their names as witnesses. The assailants were booked with assault with a deadly weapon. The officers were described as "very sensitive." They transported the victim to medical assistance.

Norman Party — For Free

"Old Friends... New Friends" is the theme of a party for community leader Pat Norman, scheduled for Wednesday, December 7 (8:30-10:30p.m.) at Maud's bar in San Francisco. Maud's is located at 937 Cole Street. There is no cover for this event.

Pat Norman, Coordinator of Lesbian/Gay Health Services for the City of San Francisco, earlier this year declared her intention to run for the S.F. Board of Supervisors in 1984.

For further information, contact Kate Ullman at (415) 641-8781.

'Dynasty' Sweeps Bars

(Continued from page 1)

of allegiance to the show is evident at the Kokpit in the Tenderloin.

What has happened is that Gays have picked up on the weekly adventures of the glamorous and evil plots that unfold each week. "Dallas" and "Falcon Crest" attract a sizable audience, but nothing in recent years has captured the attention of people like "Dynasty." Many credit the popularity of the show to Steven, the Gay character in the show. Others believe the show is a hit because of the elegantly bitchy Alexis Carrington as played by Joan Collins.

Not since the Super Bowl has the Midnight Sun seen the likes of the hysteria in the bar when Steven married in Reno to retain custody of his child. The excitement tonight is sure to generate screaming and hollering as the Gay bar crowd tries to anticipate the moves to be made by Alexis.

Last week she realized she had been framed by her straight son who had her unknowingly sign the documents for a purchase order of chemicals, the name of which only characters on the show can pronounce.

Equally as exciting as the plot is the stunning wardrobe. The clothes gain more elegance as the plots thicken. When in doubt about what to wear, the characters simply disrobe and go to bed.



Jack Coleman, the Gay son.



Joan Collins

"Mary Hartman, Mary Hartman" is the last show to attract this kind of attention. Regulars at the Ramrod remember each night at eleven the television would go on and everybody glued their eyes to the set.

Because of the Thanksgiving holiday, huge crowds are expected for tonight's showing of "Dynasty." In addition to the several bars now airing the show, many more are tuning in each week at 9p.m.

A. White



RELIGION AND US

Gay Marriages in Straight Churches: Settling for Half a Loaf?

William Swing, Episcopal Bishop of California and strongly ambivalent friend/enemy of the Lesbian and Gay Community, has squirmed for some time about what to do about you and me. One day he's commissioning Gay Parsons as "an outreach of reconciliation" to us and the next day is quoted as denying that his actions imply any approval of "the gay lifestyle" (emphasis mine). He can't quite make up his mind. Big city fags and dykes are so confusing. Back home in Swing's West Virginia they stay quiet and hidden like they're supposed to. But not in S.F.! What to do? What to do?

Just when things have calmed back down, up pops the "Domestic Partners Bill" from dear old Harry. Arch-Homophobe John Quinn, Swing's Roman Catholic colleague, gains most of the notoriety with his jack-booted intervention, but Swing was in there dumping on us as well in his typically schizoid style. First he lauded unmarried couples he's known, then he demands no legal recognition be given them lest these relationships be confused with . . . MARRIAGE. (All Reverently Bow). Shortly thereafter he orders the cancellation of a Gay relationship ceremony scheduled at one of the Bish's own churches. (Am given to understand that Norman Pittenger, pro-Gay theologian and a Church of England cleric, was trotted in and did it anyhow.

True? If so, good on ya! Normie! Like a teeter-totter the dear Overseer then bounces up and declares he's going to have a commission study the question of what sort of ceremony is appropriate for Gay couples.

After this stunning performance, SF's Dignity honors the man with a special award! Gads! Maybe next year they can honor Gen. Jaruzelski for his contributions to Polish trade unionism.

Anyhow, this is all old news, but what did you expect from a column written as sporadically as this one? (Don't answer that!) What makes the preceding history lesson necessary is that it is background for Real News. Can you believe it? There really is an Episcopal commission working on the issue of Gay relationship

ceremonies. A little birdy told me the following:

1.) When the commission set out to decide if Gay relationships merited the label "marriage," they quickly realized an answer depended upon their definition of the Holy Estate. Then they discovered that there was no consensus even about that. What is the Church's attitude (historically) about sexual relationships except one of condescending to allow the disgusting things to go on for the preservation of the race and for the spiritually weak. But for real Christians celibacy is the lifestyle *par excellence*. As one female member of the commission put it, "The Church is in the business of producing mystics, and mystics don't screw." A good line, but she obviously hasn't met the mystics I have.

2.) The straight folks on the commission are tending toward radical (i.e. post 12th Century) rethinking of the entire concept of marriage. Why shouldn't the commitment of two men or two women to a permanent sexual loving partnership be as honored as that between the sexes? Or, more radically, is "marriage," a state licensed, permanent partnership, really the ultimate form of love or is it even a desirable idea? Good questions.

3.) The Gay members of the commission are busy reassuring all that they don't consider their relationships to be marriages. What two men or two women have isn't marriage, it is something else (Something less?) Bad news indeed. It indicates either unclear thinking or a distinct lack of self-esteem.

It is very much one thing for a Gay woman or man to insist that marriage, traditionally defined, is a load of bovine feces of which they desire no entanglement. On that issue I am neutral. I see some real handicaps to personal integrity inherent in the idea of marriage, yet I can see some real benefits in terms of helping relationships mature and prosper. It is too early for me to render a verdict at this stage of social ferment. Consider me a critical friend of marriage.

It is entirely another thing for a Gay woman or man to believe that their love for their own partners is inherently different from that which exists between a woman and man. If you have the endurance to read mainline religious writing about us (a wearying and seemingly futile effort) you will discover that our liberal friends have frequently suggested just such a demeaning evaluation as the way whereby Gay people can be let into the Church via the servants entrance. We will acknowledge that since homosexuals can't change their desires, then it is the best alternative for their twisted psyches that they form permanent partnerships with similarly deformed individuals. But they must acknowledge and pay homage to heterosexual unions since they are clearly the best sort of relationship, the *creme de la creme* of human lifestyles. Not to mention they're God's will.

Now the Episcopal commission is trying to decide if our partnerships are marriages to be honored and celebrated on a par with heterosexual relationships or whether they are something else which deserves either no

(Continued on next page)

WORRIED ABOUT AIDS?

Operation Concern provides a drop-in support group for men who are worried about the AIDS epidemic and how it affects their lives and their loved ones. Issues related to stress, prevention, and "safe sex" are discussed. The group meets Wednesday, 6:00 pm to 7:45 pm, at Operation Concern, 1853 Market Street at Guerrero. A \$5 donation requested. No prior appointment needed, but the group starts promptly at 6 pm. Operation Concern is a non-profit mental health clinic and has been serving the San Francisco Lesbian/Gay community for ten years. CALL 626-7000

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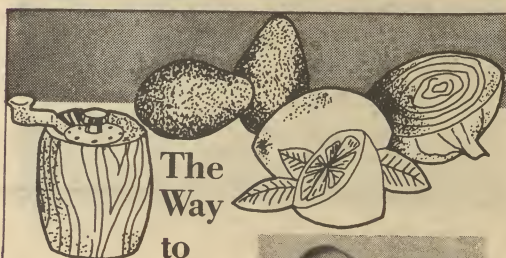
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His Heart . . .

Apple Sauce

Peter Hirsch & John Prisco



Okay, it's you and a couple of friends for a casual dinner. You stopped and picked up a nice small pork loin roast from Petri's. Lavished with olive oil, garlic, and pepper, it goes into the oven at 350° for 30 minutes per pound. Presto — you've got it almost together, you think, as you toss in a few baker potatoes and fix your simple but fresh green salad — don't forget the flair!

But even in keeping it simple and solid, you feel something is missing. Of course, apple sauce. It's an old standard with pork. But God knows that baby food they peddle in cans is just awful. So let's grab those end of season apples that have been sitting around getting soft and wrinkled on the counter and whip up something special. And no, Rose, it's not all that tricky to do, and the results are worthwhile.

Peel and core three to four apples per person (just as easy to do a dozen or so and freeze any extra apple sauce) and cut into chunks.

You're also going to need something like a potato masher — preferably one that doesn't make mush of the final product but leaves it chunky and firm — like that hot number at Chaps last night. Try K.P. for one if you can't find a makeshift at home.

So put those peeled and cored apples in a large pan. Put a small amount of water in the bottom to keep the apples from scorching. Turn the heat high for the first minute or two then turn it down low. Add a couple of tablespoonfuls of butter, about half a cup of sugar (you can always add more), generous sprinklings of ground nutmeg and cinnamon, and a little lemon juice. Cook for about fifteen minutes, stirring occasionally. But don't beat the apple sauce or you'll wind up with puree.

When the apples are soft enough to mash, the apple sauce is ready. The sugar and spices give it that apple pie taste, and the lemon adds tartness and freshness to it. So taste it now and see what it needs. Also add a pinch of salt before serving.

When adjusting the flavoring work around the flavor of the apples — don't bury the apple itself. Tart apples may require more sugar and spices but — and now think, dear — it's much easier to add sugar and spice before you finish than to try to remove too much sweetness.

Serve your finished sauce warm or cold with your pork roast. If there's enough left over — unlikely event — it's real good for dessert over vanilla ice cream; say, later in bed, the old "hot and cold treatment." Bonne chance!

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POLITICS AND POKER



Democratic Troubles

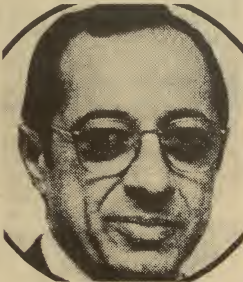
WAYNE FRIDAY

Democratic Party officials across the country are concerned about the bitter feud going on between national chairperson Chuck Manatt and the state Demo chairs of Iowa and New Hampshire. Iowa Dems voted Saturday to defy Manatt and hold its state precinct caucuses February 20, eight days ahead of the N.H. primary (Manatt insists that party rules require that Iowa holds its caucus on February 27 and New Hampshire holds its primary on March 6). Both states want to be first and DNC officials claim their only interest is in shortening the primary season. Manatt and the DNC now say they will have no choice but to refuse to seat Iowa's delegation at the July convention in San Francisco and this one will probably end up in the courts (Iowa Dem chairman David Nagle: "I've been amazed at the viciousness of the assault" of the DNC officials).

The East Bay Lesbian/Gay Demo Club re-elected Armand Boulay as its president. • Brian Coyle, running as an upfront Gay man, was elected last week to a seat on the Minneapolis City Council. • Although he avoided the dinner itself, Quentin Kopp sent the Toklas Demo Club a check for \$40 for his ticket to

their recent Awards Dinner with the following message, "To Whom It May Concern: I'm fulfilling my promise, even though the club was a rabid opponent of Prop. O — melodramatically and unreasonably so. (signed) Yours for civil discourse, Quentin Kopp."

NY Governor Mario Cuomo issued an executive order last week that will protect Gays in that state from discrimination in state employment and in the provision of state services, despite threats of political recrimination from NYC's Jewish and Catholic leaders — Rabbi Yehuda Levin, director of the NY Family Defense Coalition denounced the executive order as an attack on the "traditional family" and promised to wage a national



NY Governor Cuomo issued a far-reaching nondiscrimination of Gays proclamation.



CRIR's outgoing president Bob Bacci (l.) and incoming head Tom Paretti (r.). (Photo: K. Ankeny)

campaign against Cuomo ("I pledge to you to alert Americans to the fact that this man (Cuomo) is a direct threat to the family," Rabbi Levin proclaimed). The Cuomo order bars discrimination "on the basis of sexual orientation" in the "provision of services or benefits" by state agencies. It also bars such discrimination in "hiring, job appointment, promotion, tenure, recruitment, and compensation" and sets up a task force to measure compliance.

You think Rosalind Wyman, the new chairperson of the '84 Demo National Convention, doesn't have clout? When she learned this summer that major league baseball had scheduled the 1984 All-Star Game for July 17 in San Francisco, she got worried that the game would conflict with the Dems' confab, called up her old friend Peter O'Malley (president of the L.A. Dodgers) who in turn called the commissioner of baseball and promptly got the All-Star game rescheduled to an earlier date. Wyman joked the other day that "we thought they might beat us out in the TV ratings."

In an unusual occurrence, the State Senate passed a resolution, authored by State Senator David Roberti, marking the fourth anniversary of A Different Light Bookstore in Hollywood. The popular Gay bookstore has become a resource for the L.A. Gay community, and its owners, George Leigh and Norman Laurila, are well-known neighborhood activists in the Silverlake and Hollywood areas. The store,

located on Santa Monica Blvd., helps to sponsor a street fair each year attended by an estimated 200,000 persons. • Some are saying that Willie Brown's attack on George Deukmejian while addressing several hundred

feeling they failed to stand by her during the trial when she needed them most. • Randy Johnson holding a plant auction at South of Market's popular FeBe's bar on December 1 (starting at 8:30; guest auctioneers, donations needed) to benefit the S.F. Fund for an AIDS Lobby.

Walter Mondale and John Glenn taking off the gloves: Democrats interested in party unity winced last week when Glenn said Mondale had always been guilty of "a fundamental lack of support for an adequate national defense (Demo leaders can already hear President Reagan reading those words back in a stump speech next fall); Mondale accusing Glenn of being a "Reaganite" for some of his past Senate votes supporting the president; long-shot Democratic candidate Gary Hart of Colorado, meanwhile, telling reporters that neither Glenn nor Mondale deserves the nomination because their opposing views on military spending represent "the outdated and ir-



Assemblyman Bill Filante, lone Republican vote on AB-1, speaks out at fundraiser for S.F. Gays at Crocker Galleria. Kyle Ozier put on the cocktail event. (Photo: K. Ankeny)

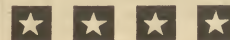
teenagers (Junior Statesmen of America) this past weekend was a little heavy. Calling Deukmejian a horse's ass ("a horse's rear end" was the way the eloquent Speaker actually put it) indeed might have been a bit uncalled for, but then I know of one prominent Democratic politician who regularly refers to Willie as "Sacramento's top con artist" as well as another term best unprinted here.

S.F. friends of Ginny Foat telling me that Foat is holding a lot of grudges against California NOW officials,

relevant defense debate of the past."

Meanwhile, a "Gay Rights Statement" arrived in the mail this week from the McGovern for President Headquarters. McGovern, along with Cranston, is the only Demo candidate to address Gay Rights (except for Glenn telling us he wants no part of us). He said, "I believe that my record on Gay rights is a consistent one. It is also a clear one: the time has long passed to end all forms of discrimination predicated on sexual orientation." • The recent verbal attack by Community College Board member John Riordan on the proposed establishment of the District Office of Gay and Lesbian Education Concerns surprised many of Riordan's long-time Gay political supporters. Robert Burton's "No" vote certainly doesn't surprise many of those who know him, but Riordan's attack comes as somewhat of a shock — especially to the many in the community who supported the guy for re-election last year. What the hell is Riordan's beef anyway? Does he really have some problem, as some suspect, with the use of the word "Gay"?

Tomorrow is Thanksgiving Day — spend it with someone you care for and have the best day ever. • I hope to see all of you at Sunday night's Candlelight March marking the 5th anniversary of the assassinations of Harvey Milk and George Moscone.



R. Weatherly

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RELIGION AND US

(Continued from previous page)

celebration at all or one that does not imply a marriage. If they decide the former, they will at least be consistent with the action of their own governing General Convention which by an 80% majority declared us unfit for ordination. But, as Swing has demonstrated, the virtue of consistency is not mandatory.

Possibly, though unlikely, they may offer some sort of liturgy solemnizing or blessing Gay relationships while ruling them unfit for "real" marriage. This may be an important step as old Mama Church's stone cold heart begins to soften. Rather akin to the half a loaf offered to women whereby they could be ordained as deacons but were not fit to be priests. Some Episcopal women accepted this half loaf while lamenting the now lifted prohibition against women priests.

Likewise some Gay or Lesbian couples may be tempted into participating in such a demeaning and crippled rite. I hope very few. This would be little more than a sop thrown our way by a

denomination seeking to hold onto the Gay people it both castigates and depends upon. It is a movement toward justice, but it is not just since it perpetuates the heart of anti-Gay feelings: at our best we are still a "deviation" from the divinely established norm.

If you're interested in such a "celebration" you're welcome to it. But I will not dance at your non-wedding. I will hope instead to live long enough to see genuine repentance on the part of oppressor churches like the Episcopalians and real acceptance of Lesbians and Gay men.

I think our Roman Gay and Lesbian brethren and sistren set a marvelous example when they returned the Archdiocese's retarded (mentally and spiritually) statement on pastoral ministry to Gay people. If this Episcopal commission gives us any less than full acceptance, I hope Integrity and the Parsonage will return it promptly. I will contribute the stamps.

BAY AREA REPORTER GREATER BAY NEWS

AN JOSE SANTA CLARA CUPERTINO SUNNYVALE REDWOOD CITY PALO ALTO MONTEREY PLEASANT HILL VALLEJO BERKELEY WALNUT CREEK CAMPBELL FREMON

Politics and Party

East Bay Demos Support AB 1

New Senator Is "Undecided" Over Rights Bill; Needs Persuasion

Election of officers, an address by Assemblyperson Johan Klehs, and a birthday party highlighted the November meeting of the East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club.

Johan Klehs, Democrat from the 14th Assembly District (San Leandro), spoke to the club about his experiences in the legislature; his bill, AB 621, which would prohibit employers from questioning job applicants about their personal lives or engagement in lawful activities; and about the prospects for AB 1. AB 1 would prohibit job discrimination based on sexual orientation. The Bill has passed the Assembly and the Senate Judiciary Committee, and awaits a vote by the full Senate when it reconvenes in January. Klehs felt that the prospects were good for its passage. He also gave advice on how best to lobby recalcitrant legislators.

Tom Brougham, PAC Chair, gave an update on the club's efforts to facilitate South County support for AB 1. A meeting, co-sponsored by the EBL/GDC and a number of South County residents, will be held Tuesday evening, November 29 at 7 PM, at the Democratic Headquarters, 22540 Main Street in Hayward, to help generate additional support for this essential bill. Senator Bill Lockyer, who represents the 10th Senatorial District (southern Alameda County) was a past supporter of AB 1 when he was in the Assembly. Now that he is a new Senator, he is "undecided." It is of the utmost importance to demonstrate to

him that there is significant support for AB 1 in his district. Write him at: 22300 Foothill Blvd., #415, Hayward, CA 94541.

★ ★ ★

New officers for the upcoming year were elected. Those chosen were: President, Armand Boulay; Vice President, Mary Ann Brownstein; Recording Secretary, Eric Hsu; Corresponding Secretary, Suzy Ganz; Treasurer, Joe Acanfora; PAC Chair, Tom Brougham; and Finance Chair, Kerry Woodward.

The meeting concluded with a surprise birthday party for Club Founder and President, Armand Boulay. The party was also attended by Berkeley City Councilmember Andrea Washburn, School Board President Steve Lustig, BCA Chair Ann Chandler, and Hayward City Council Candidate Barbara Bradley. "Armand's upcoming birthday was a convenient excuse for us to express how much we appreciate all he's done for the club and for the East Bay Lesbian and Gay community as a whole," said party organizers Woodward and Brownstein.

★ ★ ★

The next meeting of the EBL/GDC will be a Holiday Party on Saturday, December 10 at 8 PM at 2916 Martin Luther King Way (formerly Grove Street), in Berkeley, half a block from the Ashby BART station. The party is free, and all are welcome.



EBL/GDC officers (rear, l. to r.) Joe Acanfora, Tom Brougham, Armand Boulay, Mary Ann Brownstein; (front) Suzy Ganz and Kerry Woodward.

OAKLAND

Wonders at the White Horse

HORS DE COMBAT (A 7-Day Nose Pad?)

The week-long marathon celebrating the White Horse's 50th Anniversary just had to have been one of the most exhausting experiences for all of its staff!

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the time and effort required to stage such an event, make the mind reel with the details that had to have been worked out. But work out they did, and every night was totally different — a prom night, a buffet/movie night, live performance nights, including

(Continued on page 35)

Diablo Rap

Holiday Blues will be the subject on November 28, 7-9 PM, at the Center, 1818 Colfax Street in Concord. This women's rap group will discuss, with a health practitioner, how to cope with holiday stress, loneliness, and depression. Donation: \$1; info: 674-0171.

Marin Rap

Organized Religion and Homosexuality will be the topic at the December 1 meeting of the Marin Lesbian & Gay Men's Rap. Representatives of various religious groups will discuss contrasting views. Open to everyone, at 8 PM in the Community Room of Santa Barbara Savings, 305 San Anselmo Ave., San Anselmo.

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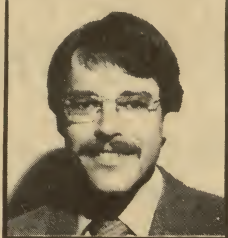
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BAY AREA REPORTER ENTERTAINMENT

STAGE

Giving Thanks for Gay Theatre

Charles Busch: His Own Cast

by Bernard Spunberg

One skinny little guy perform three plays? Are we serious? Yes. Charles Busch *Alone With a New Cast of Thousands* consists of three plays written and performed by Busch — alone.

Busch suggests his props — objects, places, other characters — so powerfully that their physical presence would be a distraction. He clambers over wooden cubes, and we see a stone quarry ideal for a lovers' rendezvous. He covers his hands with fabric, and we know the shame that hides deformity. Busch creates a house-burning scene by showing us something far more dramatic than mere flames — he shows us the flames' reflection in his eyes. Busch reveals the emotional experience of the fire, not just what it looks like. Charles Busch extracts maximum expression from consciously restricted resources. He demonstrates the superficiality of literal representation as he builds his sets on the most elaborate of stages: the imagination.

Chile Pepper, directed by Ron Vigneau, finds a record producer's daughter condemned to find a hit tune among thousands of demo tapes in a campy retelling of the Rumpelstiltskin story. *A Dream*, directed by

Kenneth Elliot, dramatizes frustration endured by an artist whose work's originality requires constant explanation and justification. *A Dream* begins with Busch excusing himself from cocktail party chitchat with Charlotte Bronte to accept a phone call intended for one Schatzi van Allen. Busch can't even acknowledge van Allen's acquaintance, much less her identity. Cryptic messages lead Busch to risk life and limb before the mystery is finally unraveled. Both *Chile Pepper* and *A Dream* are witty pieces, but *Phantom Lovers* is a large-scale Romantic drama.

Phantom Lovers is complicated, but convolutions are part of its style, and Busch's web of incident and relationship forms a symmetry that touches the heart.

A young man in search of the meaning of his mother's dying words introduces himself at the home of a sister-brother writing team. (Their relationship is a small comic gem in elegant contrast to the serious main action.) He mentions his mother's name and triggers a narrative from the sister, which is dramatized in flashback.

Phantom Lovers' central couple are passionate friends rather than moonstruck lovers. Avoiding syrupy sweetness, Busch gives them an inner



Charles Busch, alone. (Photo: D. Nicoletta)

strength which deepens our sympathy for them. The Countess is an ambiguous figure. Did pure jealousy motivate her destruction of Johnny's parents, or did she believe in witchcraft? Were her hands crippled by her own sense of guilt or by an evil curse? Busch's rich characterization gives no easy answers. His Countess is a woman forever haunted by her past.

Phantom Lovers is a tapestry woven of love, envy, crime, and guilt. At the end, writing, acting, direction, and sensitive

lighting by James Manness unite in a rare and poetic synthesis of theatre arts.

Busch's subsidiary characters give his plays resonance by placing the main characters in perspective. The brother half of the writing team in *Phantom Lovers* has always lived under his sister's thumb, and his weakness is in sharp contrast with the virility of the young man who comes calling. In *Chile Pepper*, Busch satirizes pop performers as he bumps and grinds a disco tune before throw-

ing up a punk rock hit. *A Dream* features Heidi, a dachshund who yips continually as she adds to a comic atmosphere of hysteria and mayhem.

Interesting that Busch's work is dominated by female characters. His young men possess lusty energy, and his old men have their quirks, but their points of view are dramatized only fleetingly. The consistently feminine point of view is striking only on subsequent reflection, and there's certainly nothing wrong with it. Still, Busch is capable of giving his men greater depth.

As if his performance weren't enough, Busch is also exhibiting a series of drawings at the Valencia Rose. Produced in collaboration with photographer Daniel Nicoletta, they are portraits of characters from *Phantom Lovers*. Nicoletta processed his photos of Busch so that only bare outlines of Busch's features were visible. Busch then created portraits of his characters by drawing and painting over the photos. With the exception of an overly garish psychic medium, the portraits penetrate the cores of their subjects. The portrait of the Countess is startling in its beauty darkened by the shadow of guilt — or is it only sadness?

Charles Busch is profoundly gifted. His creations are rich in character, conflict, humor, and pathos. He deserves to be famous.

Charles Busch Alone with a New Cast of Thousands
Valencia Rose
Through December 12; 863-3863

'Nebula' Lights Up; 'Lady Bright' Grows Dim

by Bernard Spunberg

Private passions and pains come to light in two one-act plays by Lanford Wilson currently in production at Studio Rhino.

Sheila Licherie and Susan Marr play Bryn Mawr alumnae in *The Great Nebula in Orion*. Pals at school, their lives went in different directions after graduation. Licherie plays a successful designer. She lives in a fast-paced, competitive world. She may not enjoy the richest personal life, but at least she's never bored.

Marr's character has chosen a different path. Devoted to her husband, children, and numerous political and social commitments, she has cultivated conventional middle class values. After years with no communica-

tion, the women meet by accident and wind up at Licherie's apartment.

In asides to the audience, each criticizes the other's life in tones so derisive they can only stem from envy. The afternoon passes, alcohol flows, secrets spill, and the lights finally dim to black on fascinating ambiguity.

Licherie and Marr offer characterizations of depth and fullness, but they glory in their ensemble. They are responsive to playwright Wilson's delicately throbbing rhythms and shifting undercurrents, alternately advancing and retreating, chattering and listening, as though playing some subtle game. And of course they are.

The Madness of Lady Bright dramatizes events and

relationships leading to the psychological disintegration of a drag queen. *Lady Bright* is a vehicle for one virtuoso actor assisted by two supporting actors. Andrew Forrest's portrayal of Lady Bright is superficial. Bright's scenes with her friends, tricks, neighbors, and parents should reveal the phases of her deterioration, but Forrest's performance hovers within a narrow range of emotions throughout. Forrest substitutes histrionics for characterization.

Carl C. Mueller and Betsy Burke share the subsidiary roles. While neither convey hostility sufficient to explain Lady Bright's withdrawal from reality, Mueller's portrayal of a callous hustler does have a believably casual cruelty. Mueller and Forrest work together to create a post-sex scene that is tenderly bittersweet.

Larry Russell directs both plays. Though his two casts are not uniformly successful, his unconventional staging is refreshing. Actors move within a triangular area and frequently speak their lines from within inches of the audience.

An uneven double bill. ■

The Great Nebula in Orion and The Madness of Lady Bright
Studio Rhino
Through December 17; 861-5079



Fuzzy Lady. Andrew Forrest plays the disintegrating drag queen in *Lady Bright*, and finds her madness increased by the casual cruelty of Carl C. Mueller's hustler. (Photo: Mark I. Chester)

Inside Entertainment

Cast members of *Forbidden Broadway* reveal backstage secrets page 20

New Pianists Spark Keyboard Concert page 21

The Brig — Much more than a bright little jailhouse fantasy page 25

A Kiss Is Just A Kiss

by Bernard Spunberg

Men kiss passionately in Stanley Rutherford's philosophical *Tonguedance*, currently presented by On/Ramp Theatre at Studio Eremos. *Tonguedance* is being performed with two other one-acts, Chris Coggeshall's *The Kitchen* and Peter Schwartz' *Bound to Make You Happy*, under the collective title *Better Homes and Gardens*.

Rutherford's piece, directed by the playwright, has a texture reminiscent of Beckett. Two college dropouts, played by playwright Rutherford and John Walker, guard the plaster figure of their Master. They playfully sweep the area around the figure and occasionally shift its position, lifting it with loving care. Soon the Kid, played by Nathan Silverman, appears. He's hurrying to keep an appointment at the Problem Center. The three men are quickly embroiled in a dramatization of the nature of male relationships and the conflict between sensual indulgence and moral responsibility.

Rutherford and Walker explain that they strive to empty themselves of ego and sense of self. They are also best buddies who like to snuggle and kiss. Walker offers Silverman a kiss, but as soon as the offer is accepted, it's withdrawn, and Silverman is taunted for being a "Needer."

Rutherford seems to say

that to indulge a desire is to devalue the object of the desire; better not kiss too much or kisses won't be special any more. Finally, at Walker's urging, Rutherford and Silverman share a magnificent, deep-throated embrace. Walker's reaction? Jealousy. Even the enlightened are not above human frailty. The three men alternately tease, lecture, and kiss each other until the final blackout.

At first glance — repeated exposure will surely suggest other interpretations — Rutherford's message is moralistic. His characters speak of cities of tonguedancers rushing from one partner to the next, finding fulfillment nowhere. There is also a reference to Cousin Louie, a compulsive tonguedancer who died with needles in his arms and tubes down his throat. Such a reference to AIDS — if that's what's intended — is offensively simplistic, tantamount to saying the drowning victim died of swimming.

As for kisses, they are among the few things we possess in unlimited supply, and they are of no value until we give them away. Does Rutherford suggest we hoard them? Should we share them more judiciously? Rutherford's idea is rooted in the concept of Need; our kisses should be an expression of need neither to give or to take, but simply of love overflowing.

Tonguedance is not a Gay play, and Rutherford has not

weighed his themes down with Gay sociopolitical baggage. His characters are not Gay men; they are men, period. They kiss either because kisses feel good or because they love each other. Sex between men onstage is a cheap thrill, and *Tonguedance* (a good synonym for "talk" as well as "sex")

to stand, the women (Penny Wallace, Marija Mrdjenovic, and Victoria Podesta) are all angry. Coggeshall's characters relate to each other not as friends but as rivals. She has created an atmosphere repellent to this Gay sensibility — but that's not to say her play is bad. She has evoked

When he isn't spacing out in front of the tube, he's getting himself arrested for mowing the lawn in front of his former house. Finally, he climbs into suit and tie and coerces his wife (Dolores Laughton) to tie him to a chair. He's convinced that if he's forced to do something — no matter how ridiculous — he will be happy.

Bound to Make You Happy comments on the human need to be needed. Schwartz' treatment is witty and original and, though the relationship between Winer and Laughton is subsidiary to the main theme, Schwartz lets us know just enough about it to give his characters a context. Schwartz achieves satire in his characterization of a deceitful talk show host, played with revolting smarminess by San Johnson.

Both *The Kitchen* and *Bound to Make You Happy* are constructed to scale proportionate to their content. Their creators have compressed and shaped their ideas to form structures which express theme without strain or doubt. All three plays comprising *Better Homes and Gardens* are blessed with vivid, imaginative casts.

Richer than either *The Kitchen* or *Bound to Make You Happy*, Stanley Rutherford's *Tonguedance* is a work of stature and resonance. It transcends Gay/straight categorization as it bares the nature of love and friendship among men.

Better Homes and Gardens
Studio Eremos
Through December 4; 387-0617



Kissing Until Blackout. John Walker (l.) and playwright Stanley Rutherford tease, lecture, and kiss throughout *Tonguedance*, a play neither Gay nor straight, but rarer still — it's about affection between men. (Photo: T. Allen)

captures the quality of something finer and rarer: tender affection between men. The moral content of *Tonguedance* may or may not have validity; the emotional content rings sweet and true.

The Kitchen, written by Chris Coggeshall and directed by John Walker, depicts the boozy confrontations of three men and two women at a cocktail party. The men (Rutherford and Richard Dinihanian) are unsympathetic. They rhapsodize about the women in their absence, and they treat them like exquisite but trivial objects. Except for the one who gets too drunk

the kind of straight party Gay people leave in disgust. Perhaps her characters, clearly and accurately drawn though they are, defy audience involvement because their declarations of love are really self-serving lies. Penny Wallace comes closest to the truth about the characters in *The Kitchen* when she says, "We don't know a damn thing beyond our nose, our toes, and our fingernails."

Bound to Make You Happy, written by Peter Schwartz and directed by Thammis Doyle, depicts the plight of a man (portrayed by Gerald Winer) who has lost his job.



"Were we not already on the edge of instability before the catalytic incident?"

Darlings, you fell off the edge of instability sometime between birth and breath. Caitlin Morgan and Susie Bright, creators of *Knife, Paper, Scissors*, meet while sharing the bathroom connecting their cheap motel rooms. Arm-wrestling for privy privileges leads to free-for-all water sports — but don't worry. Morgan and Bright don't want to wind up in the Big House, so they clean up their mess carefully. These clever, witty women say their performance piece is about secrets, taboos, and violence, but you'll be too busy laughing to care. You may even wet your pants. The show plays through November 27 at No Carz Studio; 826-3941.

B. Spunberg



Portrait of Sam. Samantha Samuels will be at 132 Bush, November 29 & 30 and December 1 from 6 to 8:30 PM. The intimate room may magnify her sometimes baroque stylings, but in her recent Plush Room gig she was more focused and refined with a new control and assurance. She sings some wonderful standards, but I like best her material by Stephen Shore — songs in the contemporary mode with lyrics of up-to-date impact. Her version of Amanda McBroom's "Portrait" is chilling, proof of Sam's musico-dramatic power.

John F. Karr

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BAY AREA REPORTER NOVEMBER 23, 1983 PAGE 20

B.A.R. INTERVIEW

Forbidden Backstage

Gaily Lancing Broadway Shows and Stars

by Steve Warren

To hear Lance Phillips and Gaille Heidemann describe it, the wonderful show *Forbidden Broadway* isn't nearly as much fun as what goes on backstage.

With the four performers (including Mary Jo McConnell and Jim Alden) assisting each other in rapid changes of costume and makeup (e.g., Gaille changes from "Mary Martin" to "Raquel Welch" while Lance is on as "Richard Burton"), every move must be "choreographed," Gaille says, as tightly as what goes on our front. Lance compares it to a "pit stop" in an auto race.

Mary Jo helps Gaille out of her "Carol Channing" drag for the number where the whole cast spoofs the mass appeal of shows about Catholics. Gaille refers to the aid of her already costumed co-star as "like being mugged by a nun... Mary Jo is very organized — she was a nurse in the Army."

With everyone running

around in various stages of undress, Lance says, "It's a good thing Jim and I are both Gay!" Gaille adds, "We're just a bunch of girls back there together."

Lance played the Plush Room a couple of years ago in a revue called *Steppin' Out*, and I wrote at the time that he had "Alfred Drake's voice in



They Play Everybody. Gaille Heidemann (front) and Lance Phillips (rear) reveal the mania of *Forbidden Broadway*, the spoof of Broadway stars playing at the Plush Room. Mary Jo McConnell (l.), Jim Alden and accompanist Marc Singer complete the cast.

Tyrone Power's body." His effortless baritone and leading man looks make him a natural for *Forbidden Broadway*'s spoof of "Kevin Kline," and his sense of humor stands him in good stead as "Richard Burton" and "Yul Brynner" as well; but what he really wants is to replace Gaille as "Jennifer Holliday." They all know each other's parts by now, he says, and he hopes one night — perhaps New Year's Eve — they can switch off.

If the show runs long enough, Lance hints, some new numbers will be added after the first of the year, including a *Zorba* for him, a *La Cage aux Folles* for Jim and a *Mame* for one of the women. "Lance knows all these things," Gaille says. "I just go to my room after the show and read my Shakespeare and never hear anything."

On a more serious note they discuss the sense of family that develops among the cast of a successful show, and the continuing friendships that form a performer's support system. Neither knows what the future holds; but Lance, being younger, seems more inclined to try to shape his own destiny.

"New York scares me," he admits; "I'm too West Coast." But when he's 30, "in about four years," he thinks he'll be ready to tackle the traditional mecca of stage performers.

Gaille is more philosophical: "You must always be flexible because life brings you so many surprises." With numerous credits as a songwriter and back-up singer (the day's mail brings a check for residuals from the movie *S.O.B.*, in which "I sang while Julie Andrews showed her tits"), she can survive between performing jobs and "take classes to embellish certain skills — growth is the most important thing."

As for Lance, he's determined not to go back to his part time job in a Los Angeles beauty college. If *Forbidden Broadway* has the run it deserves he may be in San Francisco long enough that, on some far distant New Year's Eve, he won't need makeup to play Lauren Bacall. □

Outrageous! Acting Class

Richard Benner, writer/director of the hit film *Outrageous!*, will be in San Francisco during December and January to direct his new play, *Crystal Blaze*, at Theatre Rhinoceros. During that time, Mr. Benner will offer one six-week course in acting. The sessions will begin in early December.

Benner first came to critical attention when his low-budget film *Outrageous!* hit the screens in 1977. *Outrageous!* launched Craig Russell to stardom and was the first dramatic film to place a female impersonator as its central character.

Benner's second feature, *Happy Birthday, Gemini*, was the film version of the Innuarato play *Gemini* and was also a Gay-themed story. Benner's next film, *Satin Thigh*, will focus on Gay women.

Benner lives in New York and has been teaching acting at the Corner Loft Studio for the past five years. It was his television and film directing that intrigued him to develop a fresh approach to acting

problems. On a film set, Benner found he only had an hour or two to rehearse the actors for what were sometimes very difficult scenes. Movie and television actors were not always strong actors but were seen to be strong personalities or names by the producers. Consequently, Benner had to find and use techniques that were fast but still genuine. His approach, the Quick Growth Technique, is what he started using in his classes in New York. The response to this approach was tremendous and his classes are filled at every session with students and auditors.

Benner's acting sessions are divided into three parts: career motivation and exercises (one-half hour); improvisational exercises (45 minutes); and scene work (2½ hours). The career motivation is to offer strong encouragement for getting work and to suggest exercises done each week that may lead to work. The improvisations are to loosen up the actors' creative imaginations. Benner is not teaching im-

provisation but uses it to get everyone in the room as energized as possible for the scene work of the evening. The scene work is that — work. Little talking or theorizing is done. The bulk of the time is spent on reworking prepared scenes or monologues using the fast result techniques Benner has developed.

Because his approaches are somewhat new and very elastic, Benner does not care at what stage the actor is in his growth when he or she comes to the sessions. Also, he is open to working with the actors on whatever material or in whatever medium they need at the time. The techniques he uses can be used for film or stage.

Benner's acting sessions will begin the first week in December and run for six weeks. The sessions cost \$125 for six weeks and will meet Thursday evenings. Interested actors should phone the production office of Theatre Rhinoceros (552-4100) between 9AM and 5PM and leave their name and number. They will be contacted for an interview. ■

FROM FIFTH POSITION

A New Lease On Life

KEITH WHITE

It looks as though Ellen Bromberg, the new artistic director for The San Francisco Moving Company, has the right idea about the direction in which her company should move. The look of the company in the Herbst Theatre last Friday was completely different than the last time I saw it. On this program, only the closing selection failed completely — but that dance was commissioned by Rhonda Martyn, the company's former artistic director.

Ms. Bromberg's own choreography was the most rewarding work of the evening. Her duet for Tina Misaka and Hassan Al Falak, *In The Same Breath*, is all mood and energy — so much so that it is difficult to hold in memory. The dance is almost a perfect marriage of cyclical, fast-flowing movement, kinetically in tune with the free running counterpoint of the score. The dancing flows like water, in repetitive phrases that begin propulsively and then softly collapse at the end. The initial effect to joy, and then, after a pause, the dance continues at the same energy level, the mood changed to passion. A subtle piece, it changes the atmosphere as surely as a summer shower that lasts a short while and ends. With this piece Ellen Bromberg has made a great gift to the company and especially to the two dancers on whom she set the work. They looked wonderful in it.

Jan Van Dyke's concertedly

new wave **WOOF** reflects an accurate estimation of the public's taste and the company's strengths: the work is stylish and entertaining and the company can use alternate casts in the four roles. The way the piece begins, with the four dancers lined up in silhouette along the apron of the stage, makes it almost appear to be taking place on television; the Herbst has a square, boxy stage. The ensuing moments provide as many trendy elements as time will allow: music by Brian Eno; movement characterized by throw-away flash; spontaneous duets — tactile but unromantic; same-sex partnerships. Not a great work, but an enjoyable one.

Scenework, the first ensemble work by avant-garde choreographer Joe Goode, pushes the company to the limit in a way that does the dancers more good (pardon the pun) than the audience.

Goode gives them the vocal/movement emotional abstractions that he uses in his own work; his whole gamut, in fact: duets against unrelated conversation, anguished solos, "choral" breathing sounds in ensemble. In this performance, these techniques never progressed beyond high-level charades. While the piece certainly isn't boring, it lacks both commitment and spontaneity that Joe Goode has when he performs alone or with a very accustomed partner. It also may be that work of this kind is better suited to a gallery or loft showing. The closer the proximity of the performers and more intimate the surroundings, the more confrontive it is.

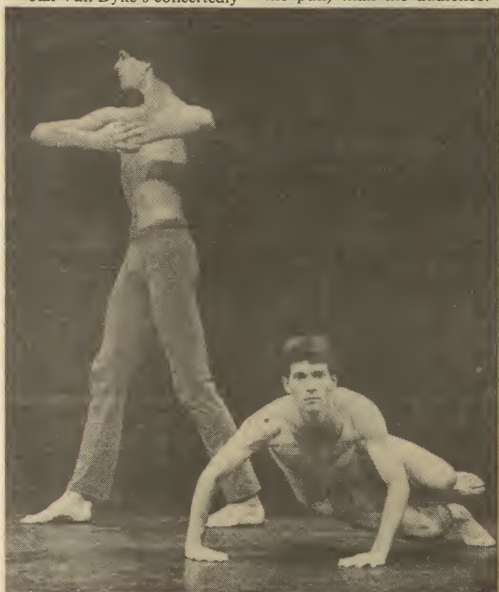
Lucas Hoving's 1964 *Icarus* failed to impress me as the masterpiece I had been led to understand it was. Probably it is a modern masterpiece, but the performances lacked intensity. Duncan MacFarland as Icarus was the best of the three; youthfully pliant and enjoying the role. Clare Whistler failed to project The Sun's brilliance and danger. Jim Campbell, as Daedalus, performed conscientiously, but fell short of truly dancing. Campbell is the odd man in the company — four heads taller than the next tallest person. At present, he is more often a liability than a true asset because of his failure to use his great height and proportions to any advantage other than the easy partnering he's capable of. His own movement style seems too careful, as though he's afraid he'll bump his head on something.

I have faith that Ellen Bromberg will soon use Jim Campbell creatively. Domy Reiter-Soffer's ballet, *Les Nuit d'Ete*, has the smell of cheap perfume. It's about love in its more sentimental and melodramatic theatrical forms, to gushing Berlioz settings of Gautier's poems. The whole affair had the ill-fitting look of a turn-of-the-century opera ballet revival being forced onto a contemporary modern dance company. To think that this piece was commissioned for this company makes it a genuine tragedy.

With that exception, the program was extremely entertaining. The appointment of Ellen Bromberg as artistic director of the company surprised many people. At this point it seems extremely fortunate. A year ago The San Francisco Moving Company struck me as a flagrant example of wasted assets. Bromberg's fresh response to the company may give it a new lease on life.



Barking at the New Wave. Jan Van Dyke's *Woof* gives the S.F. Moving Company a stylish, strong, and easily entertaining new work. (Photo: M. Sohl)



Icarus Coasting. The unusually tall Jim Campbell dances with pliant, youthful Duncan MacFarland in *Icarus*. (Photo: M. Sohl)

MUSIC

Pianists Percolate In SFCE Keyboard Concert

by Bernard Spunberg

Shadowy figures acquired definition when six cabaret accompanists stepped into the limelight at the 1177 Club on November 14. Produced under the aegis of the San Francisco Council on Entertainment, this annual keyboard concert provides an opportunity for accompanists to strut their stuff center stage.

Scott Singer's talent warrants solo exposure far more frequent than annual. His music revealed a gift for distinctive melody, and his lyrics reflected a flair for both sentiment and fantasy. Singer's pianism achieved or-

chestral effects in "Over the Sea" and sweet lyricism in "To Find the Love Still There." Directed straight at the audience, not the music stand, his ingratiating, confident vocals expressed emotional content clearly and directly.

Brian Sherman's improvisational style is distinguished by freedom and spontaneity without self-indulgence. His Charlie Parker interpretation revealed a temperament oriented more toward jazz than cabaret, as did Sherman's own lovely, pensive compositions. His technique extracted tonal variety from a harsh instrument.

Bob Bauer offered a pleasant

improvisation on four notes supplied by the audience as well as a refreshing Chick Corea tune and an aptly titled original, "Tender." Douglas Butler tackled a knuckle-cracking Gershwin medley. Steve Rifkin delivered no more than his self-deprecating patter promised. Doug Trantham left a mixed impression with charming, witty patter and smudged, harsh Beethoven and Chopin. His medley of movie music by Steiner and Weill was only too short.

Gail Wilson's two vocals and big-sisterly introductions were relaxed and informal. The surprise of the evening was the diversity of technical proficiency among the pianists.

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STREAMERS

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TALES OF TESSI TURA

French A/P

GEORGE HEYMONT

When I was first introduced to opera, heavy portions of the standard Italian and German repertoire were crammed down my musical throat. After nearly overdosing on the joys of Wagnerian leitmotifs, bizarre bel canto baubles, and voluminous verismo singers, I found myself one night (quite unexpectedly) at a performance of Gounod's *Romeo et Juliette*. Thoroughly enchanted by what I had heard, I asked a friend why he had not told me about such gorgeous music. "Ah, yes, there's always the French repertoire," he chuckled with a combined look of embarrassment and wistful chagrin on his face.

Admittedly, I was confused. I had just had one of those sublime and ethereal operatic experiences. Yet most of my friends remained aloof. As I started to delve into the works of Massenet, Gounod, Bizet, and others I realized that some of my friends had never taken the time to actively pursue the glories of the French repertoire with either a hands-on or sublingual approach. They preferred to have all the work done for them — choosing instead to lay back and be serviced by Verdi, Puccini, and the other box office greats. "Can there be such a thing as vanilla opera?" I wondered.

Later experiences taught me that pulling off a successful performance of French opera is much like achieving the delicacy of a fine soufflé. Earlier this year, when the San Diego Opera mounted the American premiere of Saint-Saens' *Henry VIII* it was obvious that the work had some choice ingredients. Getting there, however, was less than half the fun. The final result was quite bland and tedious.



A Singing Masseuse, Dalila (Marilyn Horne) takes a hands-on approach to the world's strongest man, Samson (Guy Chauvet) in the S.F. Opera's *Samson et Dalila*.

WHISTLING THE SETS

Much the same thing happened with the San Francisco Opera's revival of *Samson et Dalila*. On first sight, this is a most impressive production. The opulence of Douglas Schmidt's majestic sets and Carrie Robbins' costumes (combined with Robert Gladstein's delightful orgy ballet in Act III) are as good as any titts-'n'-ass show to be seen in Las Vegas.

Unfortunately, Saint-Saens opera tends to meander around the stage forever, dawdling all night while it slowly paints a picture of desert life, sinful seductions, and blinding haircuts under a Palestinian solar eclipse. While there are isolated moments of great orchestral beauty, *Samson et Dalila* suffers from an inordinate amount of tedium and musical fussiness (much like someone who keeps rearranging the bedsheets before getting down to the matter at hand).

With an incipient flu, Marilyn Horne did her best to get through the evening. Horne's best, one might

stress, is not bad at all. Vocally she was quite strong, although dramatically I doubt that the mezzo-soprano could act her way out of a box of Rice Chex. Louis Quilico's High Priest of Dagon was a strong contribution. As in 1980, young Kevin Langan walked off with the show. His brief appearance as the old Hebrew provided the best singing of the evening. Guy Chauvet's Samson, at its best, was inadequate, showing moments of major strain. Jean Fournet's lackluster conducting may have been smooth and functional, but was hardly the stuff of which dreams are made. An extremely laid-back affair which took forever to climax.

Infinitely more successful was the Lyric Opera of Chicago's production of *Lakme*, with Pasquale Grossi's lush, sensuous sets and costumes borrowed from the Teatro Comunale Trieste. Rarely performed in America, Delibes' opera proved to be a well-paced, tightly-written, and stageworthy work which deserves far greater exposure. As directed by Alberto Fassini, its strong points included the stunning first act duet between Lakme and Mallika, Lakme's infamous "Bell Song," and some exquisite moments for the tenor, Gerald. Comic relief was offered by San Francisco's Donna Petersen as the English Mrs. Benson.

The evening centers on Lakme's "Bell Song," however, which soprano Luciana Serra sang with frightfully accurate, if icy tones. Serra is a bit mechanical in her presentation: she gets all the notes out with volume to spare, but does not give much heart to her music. Incidentally, this aria gives a surprisingly different impression when sung in its dramatic content (a ploy to identify Gerald in the crowd milling around an Indian marketplace). The final scene at Lakme's secret hut in the forest contains all the glories of French opera one could hope for.

As Gerald, Barry McCauley was superbly cast (the tenor will repeat this role opposite soprano Gianna Rolandi's Lakme for the New York City Opera next season). Leaping over garden walls like a matinee idol, McCauley seems destined to become the next great heart-throb romantic tenor. His voice has grown impressively, filling out in the lower register and no longer pinched at the top. Always a strong musician, McCauley continues to demonstrate a major voice in the making. Stephen Dickson's sympathetic Frederic and Dimitri Kavrakos' forceful Nilakantha rounded out the large cast. Paul Mejia's sensual ballet was a delight, as was Michel Plasson's authoritative work on the podium.

Lakme proved to be one of those triumphs of the French repertoire (the kind of evening which leaves a music lover licking his lips in anticipation of sucking on more good stuff). This magnificent production in Chicago confirmed my belief that there are some stiff contenders in the French repertoire — magnificent pieces which should be swallowed, so to speak, with a great deal of relish. Music, even in its most rapturous moments, should never leave one tongue-tied.

Cabaret Dates

Valencia Rose: Walkup and Back-up with their special blend of jazz, bebop, and blues. Sunday, December 4, 8-10 PM; \$4.

Plush Room: Jae Ross in a concert celebrating his birthday. Guest appearances by other performers. Monday, November 28, 9:30 PM. Reservations advised: 885-6800. *Forbidden Broadway* continues its run.

Fanny's: Scott Rankine is in his third month as the Sunday night special; 8:30 and 10 PM; \$3. Francesca Dubie, Sunday 27, 3:30 PM, \$3. Terri Cowick, Wednesday 30, 8:30 and 10 PM, \$5.

The Q.T.: Terri Cowick, Tuesday 29, from 9:30 PM until 1:30 AM.

Valencia Rose: Comic Danny Williams in *One Guy Show*, 10:30 PM on Friday 25; \$4. *Gay Comedy* Night with emcee Lea DeLaria and comics Linda Moakes, Kelly Kittell, and Mario Mondelli, Saturday 26, 10 PM; \$4. *Charles Busch Alone* — *With a Cast of Thousands* at 8 PM Friday and Saturday; \$6. Reservations and info: 863-3863.

The Mission

Humane Khomenian

Perhaps because it's because of our unfamiliarity with Iranian culture that we don't know when to laugh during much of *The Mission*.

If not a comedy, *The Mission* is at least a comedy of errors. It's about Moslemi, a young Iranian sent to the U.S. by pro-Khomeini forces to kill one of their enemies. Through a series of mishaps and coincidences the unlikely (because he can think) assassin becomes acquainted with his intended victim and learns there's more than one side to the political story.

Handsome Houshang Touzie plays Moslemi, whose name suggests his strong religious convictions. His target, a New York janitor who was a colonel in Iran, is a man of dignity who's not afraid to act the clown. This far more complex portrayal is by Iranian-in-exile Parviz Sayyad, who also wrote, produced, directed, and edited this offbeat film.



Missionary Imposition. Houshang Touzie (l.) gets into an ideological debate with Mary Apick over the dinner dishes, and the fate of Parviz Sayyad (in background) hangs in the balance.

Technically *The Mission* has its shortcomings, including a crude look as if it were transferred to film from videotape. But this is a movie of ideas, of a different culture superimposed on the familiar sights and sounds of our own. Because of this the standard thriller format takes unexpected turns for

reasons that would never occur to us.

By the time it's over we know a little more about the world and its people — and we realize we haven't thought about laughing for at least 30 minutes.

(Gateway) S. Warren

Terms of Endearment

Same to You, Mother!

Shirley MacLaine is a possessive Mommie dearest. Debra Winger is the only child who spends her lifetime trying to win her mother's approval. Each of us can identify with a little in both characters' well developed personas. That is why this comedy, which would otherwise seem facile and glib, works so well.

Produced, written, and directed by the creator of *The Mary Tyler Moore Show*, James L. Brooks, *Terms of Endearment* starts off as a funny and touching exploration of a mother-daughter relationship. The love-hate interaction is a relevant, easy to take affair about all clinging mothers who must always be in control and children who simultaneously try to run away from this matriarchy yet win it over.

With a multi-dimensional, if a tad flamboyant, portrayal of the Queen Bee mother, Shirley MacLaine makes the most of her best role in years. Whether she's interacting with girl-chasing, boozing ex-astronaut Jack Nicholson or with Debra Winger, MacLaine seems flesh and blood. It's the plot she's in that falls apart.

For most of the film we have been set up to laugh as these two battle each other with assorted characters adding to the universally identifiable humor. When tragedy suddenly strikes Winger we find we have been merely set up. The mood becomes relentlessly grim. This change, coming without notice, is so out of synch with what has preceded that it seems phoney.

Serious medical problems can strike any of us in real life just as quickly, but *Terms of Endearment* uses illness as a manipulative theatrical

cal subterfuge that is completely misdirected, poorly handled, and ultimately destructive to enjoyment of the first portion of the film.

We feel cheated and walk out with resentment instead of admiration!

(Regency 2) M. Lasky

Un Petit Gai

A rarely shown French film that is popular with French Gays and Lesbians will be screened by the French Film Club on November 28. *Les Visiteurs du Soir* (The Night Visitors) was made in 1942 by writer Jacques Prevert and director Marcel Carne, the team who made *Children of Paradise*. This movie is "a haunting and poetic tale of two angels who fall to earth and interact with inhabitants of a medieval town." The incomparable Arletty stars, crossdressing as a man for most of the film. 7:30PM; \$2.50; Film Room 232, Harney Center, USF (Cole and Fulton). Info: 771-2218.

One Night Stands

Films of Gay Interest This Coming Week

by Michael Benzry

Thursday-Friday, November 24-25: (Strand) *Caligula* is an X-rated piece of trash, is often dull, and is basically perverted.

Saturday, November 26: (UC Theatre) Woody Allen's *Manhattan* has a "no big deal" sub-plot concerning his relationship with his Lesbian ex-wife (Meryl Streep).

Thursday, December 1: (Strand) *The Idol and American Cream*. Many swear by (cum by?) *The Idol*; I don't. The last porn audience I saw at the Strand was so serious. You can't get THE disease from just watching, and porn really is amusing; loosen up!

Bond Benefit

On Tuesday, November 29, at the Valencia Rose, Pat Bond, performer and activist nationally known for her one-woman shows, will perform in a benefit for the recently formed Gay and Lesbian Veterans group. Showtime is 8PM. Tickets are \$5. Info and reservations: 863-3863.

The Leopard

Last Waltz in Palermo

Luchino Visconti's 1963 film about the last days of "voluptuous immobility" of the Italian nobility during the turbulent 1860s is much like a long, introspective novel. It unwinds at a purposefully slow and detailed pace for just over three hours in this uncut, subtitled Italian version. The earlier American release was one-half hour shorter.

The problem is reading this "novel" in one sitting. If you can, you will be richly rewarded with Burt Lancaster's masterful, graceful performance as the proud Sicilian prince who realizes the unstoppable social upheaval means the end to his power and carefree life.

Visconti shows meticulous attention to the dichotomy of class structure, making much of this manifest more in the lavish sets and costumes than in the dialogue.

The Leopard covers a period of time when rule over the masses became the rule of the masses. Referring to his class, Lancaster points out, "We are the leopards. Those who replace us will be the jackals and the hyenas."

Wagnerian in style, the movie takes its time to establish how things were, how they will be, and how, in the words of nephew Alain Delon, "things must change to remain the same." This is shown, in grandiose

fashion, through an excess of narrative, which may not be liked by many. But *The Leopard* will be admired for its overall achievement. With fine performances from a huge cast (including Claudia Cardinale), it may be remembered most for Lancaster's triumphal creation of a man who wistfully realizes the party's over.

(Castro)

M. Lasky



Lovely to Look At. A chance to see the young Alain Delon may attract many to *The Leopard*.

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"One Guy Show," 10:30pm, \$4
with actor/comic Danny Williams

SAT, NOV 26

Charles Busch, 8pm, \$6
Alone, with a new cast of thousands

Gay Comedy Night, 10pm, \$4

MON, NOV 28, 9PM, \$3

Gay Comedy Open Mike

TUES, NOV 29, 8PM, \$5

Pat Bond & Alan Berube
Benefit for Gay/Lesbian Veterans

WED, NOV 30, 8:30PM, \$5

Marja Winters
Dutch Cabaret Performer

766 Valencia, 863-3863



Missionary Disposition. In *Nate and Hayes*, Michael O'Keefe, a younger and less pretty version of Ryan O'Neal, plays Nate, who brings his fiancée Sophie (Jenny Seagrove) to the South Seas to convert the natives. Capt. Bully Hayes, one of the last of the pirates, appears to be Sophie's choice; but the three effect a *Star Wars* camaraderie without the aid of special effects. As Hayes, Tommy Lee Jones seems like James Garner playing "Indiana Jones," but his tongue-in-cheek quality fits the film's swashbuckling mood. The colorful seas and sands of Fiji and New Zealand add to a pleasant Saturday matinee atmosphere.

(area theatres)

S. Warren

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S.F. Track and Field Club. Sunday, November 27: Blind Duck Relays, in Oakland. Info: 647-5231 or 431-7021.

S.F. Hiking Club. Thanksgiving weekend features a backpacking trip to Big Sur. Advance registration was mandatory. You must also sign up

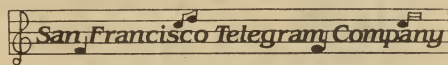
one week in advance for the Saturday, December 3, Pacific Fly Spectacular. This is a full day trip to the Sacramento Wildlife Refuge to see the seasonal migration of multi-millions of birds flying south — geese, swans, cranes, pelicans — the works! Carpooling will be arranged, with return through Napa Valley for possible wine tasting and dinner. Interested? Call Art at 863-3034. ■



CSL 1983 championship team from The Village.



1983 CSL All Star winners. (The two women in the picture — you find 'em — accepted awards for Norm Smith and Pat Wolfe, who were unable to attend the banquet.)



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TGWEDNESDAYNBL

JERRY R. DE YOUNG

Bowling Attitude: Humdrum or Gung-ho?

In addition to the exhilaration one experiences simply by competing on the lanes at Park Bowl each Wednesday evening, there is the added bonus of a possible win or two (it is common knowledge how much the noble TGWNBL teams relish winning). While balanced opposition is the desirable situation, on occasion an undermanned team must face the menace of a full strength team.

When confronted with this intimidating predicament, each member of the debilitated team must decide whether to assume the namby-pamby attitude of "after all, it's only a game," and surely lose everything, or to look deep inside oneself, possibly deeper than ever before, and locate the spigot of team spirit that exists in all of us. Once pinpointed, and turned to full-open, the sparkling audaciousness of confidence will rush through one's entire body, arousing every cell to a heightened delirium whose invigorating intoxication causes every remnant of doubt to be cast into the dark oblivion of forgotten fears. Thusly, the bowler will ultimately experience a sense of undiluted strength and power that will consequently result in an unwavering resolution to win — one sure sign of a champion.

Of course, even if you bravely choose to follow the latter course, there remains the tiniest possibility that your team may lose anyway. But it surely would be through no fault of your own; would it?

With bowlers like the following 200+ group on one's team, one can simply relax and let them carry the load. (Don't you dare!!!)

200+ BOWLERS - NOV. 16

S. Christian (Fickle Foxes)	222
K. Ray (P. POT Lickers)	214
T. Szep (S.I.)	214
E. Carmick (S.I.)	213
R. Padua (Fickle Foxes)	205
R. Mallin (P. Pot Lickers)	203
S. Eidelberg (Gay Sports Mag)	201
R. Bremner (PWIL)	200

While Ron Squires of the power-packed Pilsner IV team has not yet bowled a 200+ game, he did win two turkeys, one on 11/9, the other on 11/16, for bowling a strike in frames 3, 6, and 9 in a game of each night. Congratulations Ron, your Thanksgiving dinner will certainly be abundant, especially if you now win a can of cranberry sauce.

Here is the TGWNBL lineup until league play is resumed on November 30.

1. Sweet Inspirations	26	10
2. Pilsner Pot Lickers	24	12
3. Pilsner Pointless Sisters	24	12
4. Park Bowl	23	13



Women's Sunday Night Bowling. Though only a third of the way through this season, the team that's way ahead of all the others is Peg's Place. Coming up next is "Natural Snacks," and in third place so far is Amelia's. More than a few teams up and down the lanes of Park Bowl on Sunday night made it clear that the three top-ranked teams will have a real run for it if they expect to be in their present league standings by the end of the season. (Photo: Rink)

TGMONDAYNBL

ROGER SPENCER

Pros We're Not!

Scene One: He stands up and approaches the rack, picking up his ball and meticulously wiping any dirt or oil from the surface. Carefully choosing his position, he lines up his mark. The audience is silent. Taking four, maybe five, practiced steps, he releases the ball with ease. It curves into the pocket, knocking all the pins down. With a look of smug satisfaction, he turns to the cheering crowd and acknowledges their cheers and applause. He is: A PRO!

Scene Two: He puts his drink down and saunters up to the rack, picking up his ball. Not bothering to wipe the ball off, he casually picks a spot on the approach. Listening to the derision from his teammates and trying to ignore them, he lines up his mark. He takes four, five, six, God only knows how many steps and releases the ball with a thud. It rolls down the alley and hits the pins, some of them falling down, the rest just standing there.

With a look of disgust, he turns to his teammates and acknowledges the taunts and jeers with one finger in the air (preferably the middle one). He then turns back to the lane, knowing he has to go through the whole agonizing process all over again. He is: a TAVERN GUILD BOWLER.

There is a distinct difference between these two scenes. The Pro bowls for money. If he consistently places in the top 20, he can make a fairly decent living. The Tavern Guild Bowler does it strictly for fun. We laugh and bowl, cruise and bowl, drink and bowl, and so on and so forth. I'm not saying we don't take our bowling seriously. We do! But our bowling is a recreational sport, not a profession.

Here are members of our 200+ Club for the season so far:

C. Clevenger, Deluxe	243
H. Givan, New Image	242
S. Mower, Eagle Creek	234
E. Carmick, Park Bowl	227
A. Palmer, Eagle Creek	224
T. Hagerman, 4 A'S & Spade	221
A. Welinski, Sus-Spencers	221
R. Mallin, Renegade	218

5. Deluxe	22	14
6. Stallion Stampede	21	15
7. Play With It, Ltd.	20	16
8. Fickle Foxes	20	16
9. Pilsner I	20	16
10. Pilsner 4	19	17
11. David Kelsey's Unmentionables	19	17
12. Fire Mountain Lodge	18	18
13. San Francisco Eagle	17	19
14. Bad News Bears	16	20
15. Animals	16	20
16. Scenic Hyway Tours	16	20
17. Pendulum	15	21
18. Hair Today Gone Tmrw	15	21
19. Gay Sports Magazine	13	23
20. Pilsner II	13	23
21. Grady's	10	26
22. Days of Our Lanes	9	27

★ ★ ★

Here's something for trivia buffs to ponder over the Thanksgiving holiday — a birthmonth breakdown for the 126 TGWNBL bowlers!

January has 4 TGWNBL birthdays; February, 13; March, 5; April, 11; May, 13; June, 5; July, 7; August, 12; September, 17; October, 13; November, 12; and December, 7, for a total of 119. You say there's 126 bowlers in the league? Well, seven chose not to divulge the information.

Does that make an interesting blend?

Until November 30, I leave you with the wish for a Thanksgiving filled with love and caring. ■

L. Harden, Eagle Creek	212
D. Goldberg, Galleon	206
M. Garcia, Park Bowl	204
P. Green, Pendulum	204
D. Quick, Donna & Dicks	203
D. Latt, Renegade	202
L. McBroom, Grand Central	202
L. Watson, Grand Central	201

These 16 men combined have rolled 29 200+ games. Definitely some good bowling. Now, as for the rest of us . . .

Never Mind. The standings after 5 weeks are tight, with the Men's Room and the Sus-pencers leading the pack. Those perennial champs, Eagle Creek, are starting off slow, but then, they always do. Watch out, guys!

Current Standings	
Men's Room	14 6
Sus-Spencers	14 6
Pendulum #1	13 7
Stables	13 7
SF Gym	13 7
Ethel Meltz Mem.	12½ 7½
The Deluxe	12 8
Renegade Dance Bar	11½ 8½
Pilsner Pickups	11 9
Twin Peaks	10 10
New Image	10 10
Grand Central Sta.	10 10
Park Bowl	10 10
Pilsner #1	10 10
Perfect Petals	9½ 10½
Crystal Spg.-Olators	9 11
Body Center	9 11
Eagle Creek Saloon	6½ 13½
The Galleon	6 14
La Mediterranee	6 14
Stables Also	6 14
4 Aces & a Spade	5 15

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RIVETS

Machismo's No Prison in This Brig

TOM ROGERS

What does the word "Brig" mean to you? A small transportation center and tourist spot in southern Switzerland? A two-masted, square-rigged sailing vessel used for commerce and light naval duty in the 18th and 19th centuries? A slang term used in the U.S. Navy to reference the shipboard (or base) jail? The bar South of Market that lost its owner to a brutal murderer last spring?

"Brig" answers all of those questions, of course (it's Brigue that's in Switzerland), but it's the final question that pushes my fingers to the typewriter. A front page story in last week's *Bay Area Reporter* closed another chapter in that continuing, sad story; "Brig Owner Murderer. Pleads Guilty" read the headline.

So Hank Diethelm's murderer, Jeffrey Jan von Tongeren, pleaded guilty to murder and robbery when he was finally dragged to the feet of Justice last week. How big of him.



Fantasies Documented. The huge mural on the wall of the Brig depicts multiple prison and bathroom fantasies... most of them actualized frequently by Brig patrons. (Photo: Rink)

When I wrote the original story for this paper last April, detailing the late Brig owner's death, it was all I could do to stomach the details: "... firefighters... discovered Diethelm's nude body, handcuffed and badly burned, in a basement playroom. Diethelm was strangled, beaten on the head, then doused with a flammable fluid and set on fire."

Grisly.

But it was more than just the details of how Diethelm had been murdered by a sex partner that made writing that story difficult. As I was writing a straight news story, I could not interject my own feelings, so there was no appropriate way to say what I felt needed to be said. Righteous Indignation has rarely pounded so hard on my door. Discretionary editorial silence was demanded, however, by "fair trial" considerations.

Not that all of what I'd wanted to say had to do with von Tongeren exclusively. I'd wanted to protest his act of ultimate betrayal, however, both on the level of the physical results in Diethelm's case and the broader, attitudinal ramifications of the murder. I felt that von Tongeren's act added fuel to the misconceptions that shroud the leather scene, blocking understanding entirely. He betrayed us all, and made S&M look like a sexual road to death. A few months earlier the movie *Cruising* had taken a bite out of our collective ass and we didn't need a local manifestation of

its insanely irresponsible message. I feared that the local straight press would take the murder as an opportunity for yet another cheap shot at the Gay community. In that, I was pleasantly surprised. They kept their yaps shut. I also feared that the murder would serve as a vehicle for some of the more uptight press in our own community to make leather appear even more politically incorrect than they often hold it. (Gay lobbyists find us difficult to explain, and a reader tells me, for example, that his boss, Mayor Feinstein, doesn't at all approve of leather.) Happily, reason prevailed even in those quarters, in spite of the opportunity to nail this city's leading leather bar as the creation of the murdered man and as a potential harbor for the likes of von Tongeren.



Ready to Serve. Brig assistant manager and bartender Don. (Photo: Rink)

Unfortunately, the murder did have a sobering effect on many of this city's more erstwhile leathermen, who were less comfortable feeding their sexual appetites within the walls of the Brig and other leather bars than they had been previously. Happily, there was a huge cadre of leathermen who remained loyal to themselves, and who helped the Brig's staff neatly and effectively route all basis for fear out the back door and into the sewers where it belonged. Their success at putting the party back together, by openly dealing with all considerations surrounding Diethelm's murder, makes a feature article about the Brig possible without it being a lot of glossed-over hype. They've buried Diethelm without hiding him, cleaned up the mess, and stepped forward with their product — a leather club with the strength and character attributed to a real survivor. They've also stepped out front with the style of a leader. That's appropriate. The Brig, in spite of its name and decor, is much more than a bright little jailhouse fantasy. It's also much more than So/M's inveterate stronghold of machismo, a position attained by its not being locked into a rigid view of what a leatherman should be, although certain limits are recognized. For example, the Brig is one of the few places where machismo can be freely given vent without the annoyance of a giggling gaggle of girls exposing their lack of understanding. (For starters, girls, "butch" has nothing to do with anything.)

You may notice that leather and attitudes intertwine themselves inextricably in any discussion about the Brig. That's because the Brig is historically (and definitively) the leather bar So/M. In spite of a lengthening list of other contenders for the title who've leveled their challenges with varying degrees of success, the Brig remains to be topped by any other than Chicago's Gold Coast. (And the Gold Coast, by Chicagoans' own admission, is only really hot during the International Mr. Leather Contest. The Brig, a little less pretentiously, annually bestows the title of "San Francisco Mr. Leather." Diethelm shipped one of his Mr. Leather titleholders to Chicago to bring the Interna-

tional title home with him a couple of years ago, and the Brig has sent three candidates each year to the Chicago competition ever since. Although they've lately failed to bring home the top title, they've represented us well and helped demonstrate the Brig's level of community participation. Steven Roberts, current holder of the Mr. SF Leather title, brought home the 2nd runner-up title from the Chicago contest last year.

The Brig doesn't accomplish its leadership position with new decorating schemes or other such frivolities. The only change in the decor occurred when Alan Selby pulled his Mr. S Night Shop out to meet Diethelm's request for the space. Diethelm

(Continued on next page)

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(Continued from previous page)

needed more room for Brig customers. Today, like the leathermen who patronize it, the Brig remains unswervingly and confidently the same — darkly handsome and heated best by men in leather. The staff's attention to the leather community approaches a devotion that brings the Brig as close to being a hospice for leathermen as is possible without monks and beds. And a visit to the Brig proves that it's a popular hospice at that, with a reputation that spans continents. (In fact, the Brig probably rivals the tourism popularity of Brigue, Switzerland.)

I was a temporary employee of the Brig a few years ago during the Halloween rush that this city's bars experience during the four weeks that surround that holiday. Diethelm was still at the helm then, and he ran the Brig as tightly as if it were indeed a square-rigged sailing vessel. Staff discipline was rigidly focused upon holding a course true to leather. His was a highly traditional, spit and polish approach that worked well for him, and continues to work well for much of the leather community. He encouraged expression of other male-oriented fantasies as well, but the accent was definitely upon traditional leather.

Currently, the confident and friendly staff has begun to show that the Brig isn't permanently moored at a single leather port. The staff's new haircuts and musical style (excellent tapes) combine to defy a specific label, but they communicate "present, with one foot planted firmly in the future." Looks and sounds like a leather brand of punk/new wave, although I'm not sure I know what punk/new wave is. Maybe a few more visits will help me establish a label, for the Brig is as much an arena for inspection and observation of behavior and attitude as it is a perpetrator of new behavior. The latitude of behavior acceptable at the Brig allows new ideas and styles to be adopted or adapted for our use. It's how we grow.

Under the helmship of its staff, the Brig continues to serve as a superior vessel for leathermen's mutual exploration.

ADVICE TO THE WHIPTORN

I occasionally get letters or notes from readers which deserve broader exposure. In my last column I asked a few questions of a hypothetical daddy/daddy's boy relationship. Reader Bill Whitmore felt there were answers available somewhere, and after digging into some heavy duty



Beef, Well Done. The second runner-up in the recent Leather Daddy's Boy contest couldn't keep his tongue off his Daddy's boots. (Photo: R. Pruzan)

literature, gave me not a letter but four pages of xerox copy from a book about Kierkegaard's philosophy. Whitmore had thoughtfully underlined applicable passages with heavy red ink. I quote:

"If we were to reinterpret the hypothetical child-to-parent synthesis in Kierkegaardian terms, it would be seen rather as a tenuous and tension-ridden holding together of the child's tendencies toward self-assertion and union. The holding together would have been created by the child's spirit. This is the positive third term which Kierkegaard refers to. This spirit sustains the tenuous holding together in the face of the temptation either toward self-assertion (rejection of parents) or union (rejection of self). To give in to either temptation would, then, deny that these contradictory tendencies can ever be overcome and hold that the task is then to continually face up to the tension of the situation and to maintain an independence while engaging in community."

Thank you, Mr. Whitmore. Daddy's boys who failed to stand tall and participate in the InterChain/SF Eagle contest alongside nineteen who did can add this to their knowledge. Maybe it will help them do it next year.

BIKE WATCH

Triumph owners, take heart. My report on the collapse of the Meriden Cooperative may not necessarily mean that Triumph is dead after all. Cagiva, the Italian firm which recently took over Ducati, is reportedly interested and might even continue to manufacture Triumphs in Britain. Also, an official of Harley-Davidson Motor Co. met with British government officials to discuss Triumph in a "purely exploratory" way.

Yamaha's new Viragos are both bigger and smaller. The '84 Viragos are now 1000cc

(replacing the old 920cc) and 700cc (replacing the old 750cc). If you have a black '81 "showroom" Virago at 750cc like mine, hang onto it. Yamaha will only be producing red and blue ones this year.

Honda has announced that it is constructing a \$30 million facility in Marysville, Ohio, to build motorcycle engines in the U.S., something that's only been done in Japan to date. Marysville is the site of a large assembly plant for other Honda products.

Suzuki is reportedly looking into leasing a now-idle lawnmower manufacturing facility in Minneapolis, Minnesota, to produce some of its bikes.

PLUGS

The Knights Templar is sponsoring a party called **Cold Turkey** on November 26 for \$10 and a six-pack. Call 863-0476 and ask Frank for the details.

Read Gilmore, owner of the Fickle Fox and the Castle Grande, called to say the deal is signed, sealed, and delivered for his take-over of the -atherton Hotel dining room.

Pittsburgh's only leather bar, The Crossover Lounge, will lose its sole status when the Pittsburgh Trucking Company opens the day after Thanksgiving.

T. Rogers

Karl's Calendar

Wednesday, 11/23: Razzadazzle. Rathskeller (600 Turk at Polk), 9pm, \$4; show, host: Amber Lee.

Thursday, 11/24: Turkey Day Grey Card Party. Stables, 11am-2pm; hors d'oeuvres, drink specials (shooters of Wild Turkey, \$1.25); kitchen closed.

Friday, 11/25: Rock Night. The Oasis, 9pm-2am, \$4; live band.

Saturday, 11/26: Milk/Moscone Memorial Services. Grace Cathedral, 7pm; featuring The Pacific Gay/Lesbian Chorus and Dick Kramer's Gay Men's Chorus.

Fire in My Heart. I-Beam Family at the Gift Center, 10pm-5am, \$12 adv., \$15 door; featuring Madleen Kane.

New Wave Night. The Oasis, 9pm-2am, \$5.

Cold Turkey S/M Party. Knights Templar, 10pm, \$10 + six-pack; call Frank for details: 863-0476.

4th Anniversary. Antony Vega (BC Prez) & Bob Rowbottom. Febe's, 9pm; buffet.

Sunday, 11/27: Beer Bust. Eagle Patio, 3-6pm, \$6; food; host: LA/MC San Andreas.

Tuesday, 11/29: 10th Anniversary Week. The Endup, 8pm; buffet, drinks 25 cents (except call), debut of mural (light organ); continues Wednesday with 2 for 1 drinks.

Thursday, 12/1: AIDS Auction. Febe's, 9pm; donations needed, see Randy Johnson.

Karl Stewart



Men for the Moment. Matthew Brown (L) celebrated his birthday at Febe's with some local celebs who usually dress . . . fancier; (l. to r.) Jonni, Remy, and Char. (Photo: Rink)

Scenes from the Planet Mary



Ann Meet Ann Meet Ann Meet Ann. Ann Miller (third from left) picked her look-alike at the Trocadero, Tommy Janes (on Ann's right). Ann had a wild night and her hair never moved. (Photo: K. Ankeni)



Pig Out! This Halloween trio snorted at less creative costuming. Could you say they wallowed in their clothes? (Photo: R. Pruzan)



Cooking on Castro. Baseball player Glenn Burke escorted a friend dressed as Aunt Jemima to the Castro on Halloween night, and Auntie even brought a box of her cake mix. (Photo: Rink)



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Summit Conference. Mr. Marcus, Sweet Lips — resplendent in red leather and mirrored construction hat — and Don McLean helped Ann Miller pick her twin. (Photo: K. Ankeni)

Happy 50th Birthday to Ray (Easter Bunny) Piccinni! I hope he has many more of them.

Talking about birthdays ... yours truly is having one ... a party at Google's from 5-9PM Thursday, December 1, so come and help me celebrate the 40th anniversary of my 21st birthday!

Yes, it is true that Daddy Joe Roland is working three

shifts at Queen Mary's Pub, Tuesday through Thursday from 6 'til 10AM. Casey and Billy Buns are still holding forth there, too.

Mrs. Egg gave Mr. Egg a new diamond ring last Saturday ... couldn't wait for Christmas to get here. Bob Golovich (aka Closet Ball) had a large group for Thanksgiving Dinner at the Chez Mollet. Sorry I couldn't make it, Robert, but

I had to work. Have you set the date for next year's Closet Ball yet?

Dolly Dale (Polk Gulch) and yours truly had a ball drinking at the Pendulum Tuesday AM with Lucy ... the Pendulum is a lot of fun and I never realized how many people are there so early in the morning ... you never looked lovelier, Lucy.

I had one of the greatest nights in years at Sunday's Ann Miller Look-Alike Contest at the Trocadero. Yours truly, Mr. Marcus, Lori Shannon, and Ms. Ann Miller herself were judges, and you must believe me when I say Ms. Miller is a great and fabulous person, very warm and quite beautiful. She also has a gorgeous bodyguard. The winner was Tommy Jones, who did a fantastic tap dance and looked just like Ms. Miller. Runners-up were Pat Montclair and Robert Wilows. The San Francisco Tap Troupe did an outstanding job and they, as always, were great to watch. Besides, I haven't seen so many gorgeous people in years; right, Dolly Dale, Ethel Noonan, and Chester?

Mame from Portland called and hopes that every one of you have a really great Thanksgiving Day, and I second that motion.

Jay Noonan offered to have lunch at Google's and Tacky Hacky asked if we were having one veil or two.

OAKLAND

(Continued from page 17)

wonderful Lynda Bergren and the ever fantastic David Kelsey and Pure Trash.

Unfortunately, I missed what one person described as "the wildest thing I saw" night! That Wednesday evening featured Fawn's Fabulous Love Act, and people are still talking about it!

Friday evening was the Great Gatsby Costume Party and over half of the crowd donned their favorite getups from the mobster era. I was surprised that there weren't more costumes from the bobby socks decade and the early rock and roll years. Come to think of it, I don't remember seeing anything of the Thirties — there could have been some truly creative endeavors on that decade.

Wacky and crazy Jane Dornacker performed that night. She has a way of making fun of herself, her audience, and just about everything else in existence. The three judges (I was one) had the best seats in the house. We were able to sit stage left, within breathing distance of her performance. It's a little bit exciting being that close to a professional!

After the parade of costumed entrants, the three judges, Trock (the manager), and Jane cloistered in a rear office to tally the ballots. Jane is as crazy off stage as she is on! My math is poor enough, but her asides kept

distracting me and I had to continually recount on my fingers and her toes!

Apologies to the winners — there were four — but somewhere between the back office, through and under the back bar, snake-chaining my way past the performing Castanhas Brazileria (Brazil Nuts) Dance Troupe, pushing my way through the filled showroom, and making my way out to the equally crowded front bar, my notes disappeared!

With two searchlights out in front, balloons and trimmings, huge video screens, and nonstop entertainment, one can only wonder how Graham Bell can top this at his next celebration!

Hats off to the entire (and I'm sure, tired!) crew of the White Horse. I know they deserve a well-earned rest!

CHARCOALED MANNA?

Once again, Thursday nights will be barbecue nights at the Bench & Bar, on 11th Street in Oakland! I don't know if it was by popular demand, but once again the esurient can feast on ribs and chicken! Mark your calendar for Thursday, December 1 — and bring a lot of napkins!

During this Thanksgiving holiday, take time out to truly give thanks that in this day and age we can be who we are and what we are!

Thinking about it is easier than doing it. But so far, I haven't even thought about it! I smile anyway! Love. Nez

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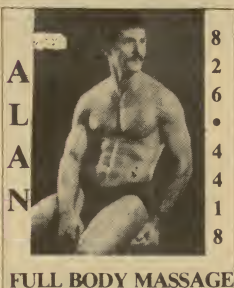
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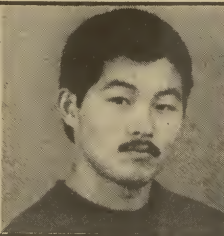
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